SPORTS REVIEW

Wrestling

1981 ANNUAL

Spring 1981
48768 $1.25

CONFIDENTIAL DIARY OF AN APARTMENT WRESTLER

Why Hulk Hogan Says

"I'VE SHATTERED THE MYTH OF ANDRE THE GIANT!"

FREE BONUS! YOUR 1981 WRESTLING CALENDAR!

1980 In Review:
The Greatest Photos, Matches, & Wrestlers

0 71896 48768 11

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Champion: BOB BACKLUND
1—KILLER KHAN
2—SGT. SLAUGHTER
3—HULK HOGAN
4—KEN PATERA
5—PEDRO MORALES
6—LARRY ZBYSZKO
7—STAN HANSEN
8—PAT PATTERSON
9—TONY GAREA
10—RICK MARTEL

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Champion: VERNE GAGNE
1—NICK BOCKWINKEL
2—CRUSHER BLACKWELL
3—JOHN STUDD
4—DINO BRAVO
5—MAD DOG VACHON
6—ADRIAN ADONIS
7—TOMMY RICH
8—TITO SANTANA
9—GREG GAGNE
10—JESSE VENTURA

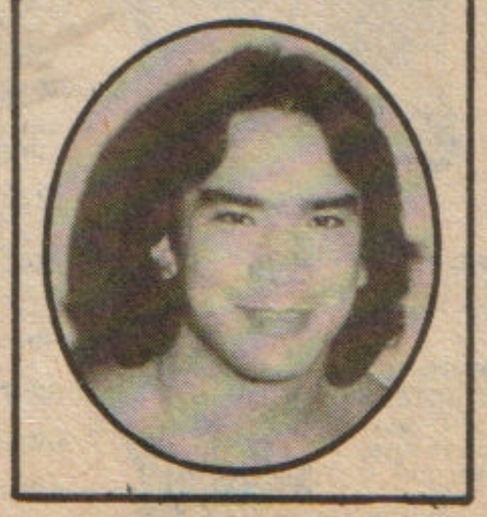
MOST POPULAR

1—ANDRE THE GIANT
2—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
3—DUSTY RHODES
4—MIL MASCARAS
5—BOB BACKLUND
6—RICK STEAMBOAT
7—PEDRO MORALES
8—WAHOO McDANIEL
9—DINO BRAVO
10—KEVIN VON ERICH

SGT. SLAUGHTER

TED DiBIASE

JOHN STUDD



RICK STEAMBOAT

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Champion: HARLEY RACE
1—GREG VALENTINE
2—DUSTY RHODES
3—RICK STEAMBOAT
4—TONY ATLAS
5—DICK SLATER
6—KEN PATERA
7—MASKED GRAPPLER
8—TED DiBIASE
9—TERRY FUNK
10—JIM BRUNZELL

TAG TEAMS

1—RAY STEVENS & JIMMY SNUKA
2—TONY GAREA & RICK MARTEL
3—JESSE VENTURA & ADRIAN ADONIS
4—THE FREEBIRDS
5—THE SHEEPHERDERS
6—BARRY WINDHAM & SCOTT McGEE
7—THE MOONDOGS
8—THE SAMOANS
9—TOMMY & EDDIE GILBERT
10—KILLER BROOKS & STAN STASIAK

MOST HATED

1—LARRY ZBYSZKO
2—TOMMY RICH
3—KEN PATERA
4—GREG VALENTINE
5—KILLER KHAN
6—MASKED GRAPPLER
7—BOBBY JAGGERS
8—EDDY MANSFIELD
9—TERRY GORDY
10—KILLER BROOKS

1980 In Review

PRELUDE TO A DECADE

NINETEEN-EIGHTY SHOULD RANK among the greatest years in wrestling history.

In the AWA, the title held by Nick Bockwinkel for five years slipped away in July. Veteran Verne Gagne unveiled a brilliant strategy marked by shrewdness and courage in wrestling the belt from Bockwinkel. Yet Bockwinkel contended Gagne used an illegal chokehold to gain the victory, setting the stage for a brutal series of battles designed to settle the feud. Still, AWA fans have a new champion to cheer for.

The WWF championship was skillfully defended by Bob Backlund. A number of tough foes challenged Backlund's three-year reign, among them reigning Inter-Continental champion Ken Patera, newcomer Sgt. Slaughter, and controversial Larry Zbyszko.

Bruno Sammartino is disqualified for failing to release his chokehold on Larry Zbyszko, setting up their unforgettable cage match at Shea Stadium.

It was Zbyszko who provided 1980's greatest feud when he broke with former mentor Bruno Sammartino. Claiming Sammartino stunted his wrestling growth, Zbyszko broke ranks with the Sammartino school of wrestling and launched an all-out assault on Bruno and his friends. Though his feud was seemingly settled in a steel cage match at Shea Stadium in August, 1981 should see a continuation of that bloody rivalry.

Once again, Captain Lou Albano demonstrated his managerial prowess by introducing Afa and Sika, savages from Samoa. Under Albano's wily stewardship, The Samoans seized the WWF tag team title and held it until losing to Tony Garea and Rick Martel.

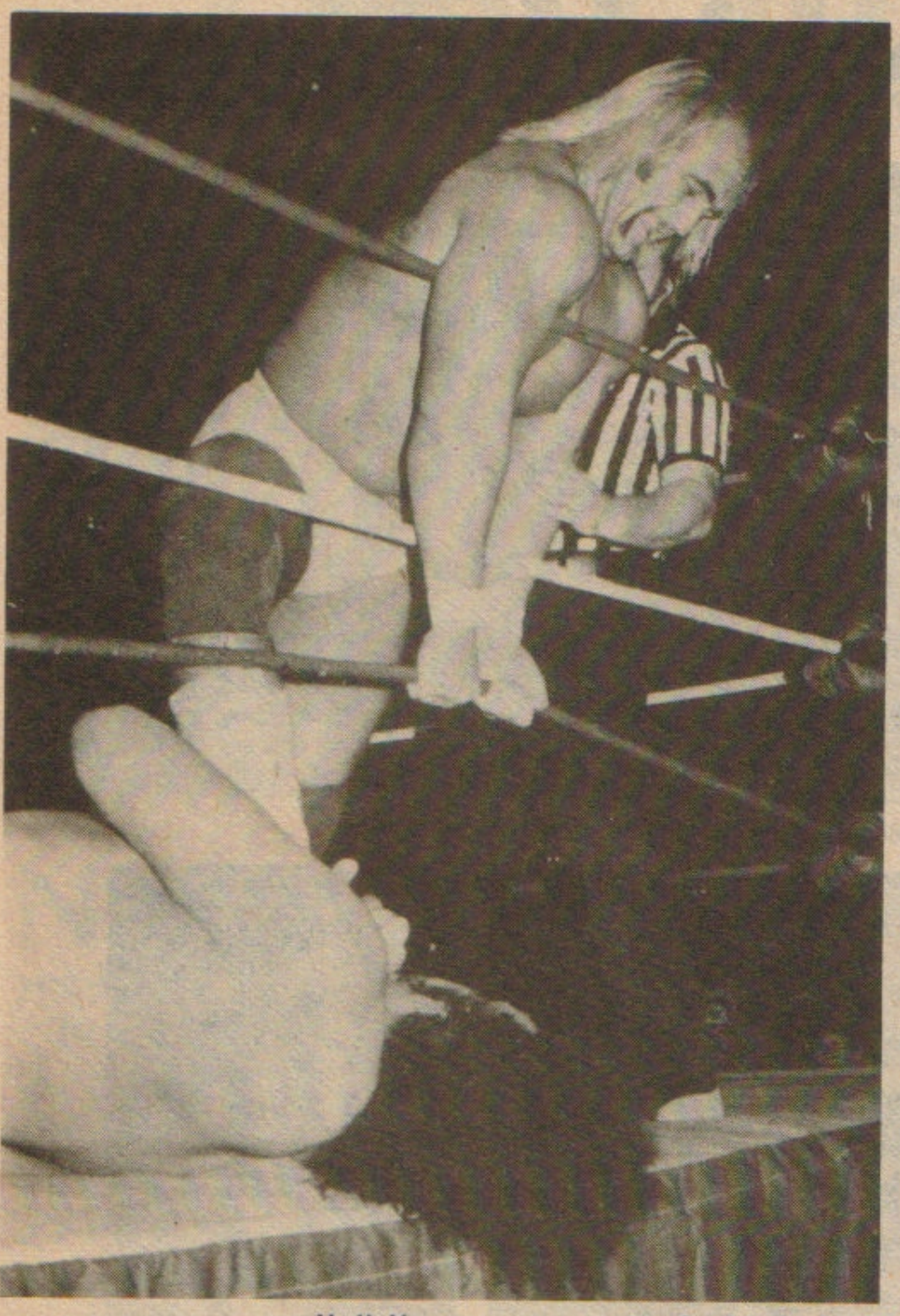
The Mid-Atlantic area witnessed the stunning conversion to fan favorites of both Paul Jones and Masked

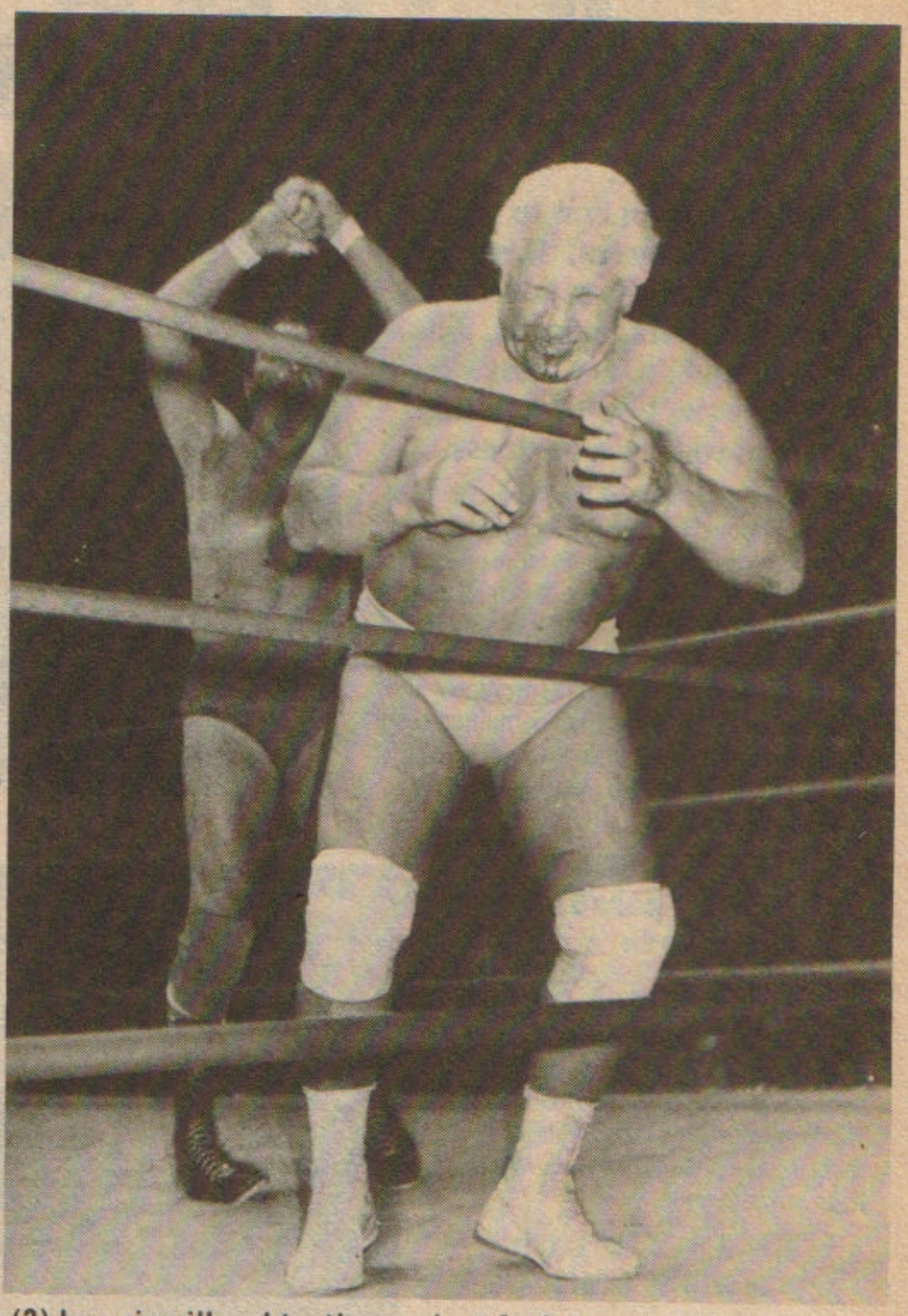
(Continued on page 10)

It was a wonderful and exciting year. So very much happened that an entire issue would have to be devoted to recalling all the great moments of 1980. Who can forget the savage feuds, the stunning upsets, the decline of greats, or the rise of young superstars?

PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 8)





Hulk Hogan compensates for his lack of size (?) by using illegal tactics against Andre the Giant (above left). Never before had either man met an opponent as large. John Tolos lured Fred Blassie out of retirement, and their battle in Los Angeles was as ugly as those of a decade ago (above right).

Superstar. Additionally, Gene Anderson consolidated his hold on the Mid-Atlantic area. NWA tag team champions Jimmy Snuka and Ray Stevens belong to Anderson's stable, as does Hussein Arab, for a while Mid-Atlantic heavyweight champion before losing the belt to Rick Steamboat.

In Georgia, Mr. Wrestling II captured the Georgia heavyweight title for a while. As the belt went from II to Von Raschke to Idol to Condrey to Atlas, violence intensified. Atlas enters the new year as reigning champion. And Tommy Rich, a beloved fan figure, went to Memphis and turned rulebreaker, shocking the wrestling world.

Harley Race showed why he belongs among the wrestling immortals by defeating a wide array of competent challengers. In the Autumn, Dusty Rhodes vowed never to wrestle for the NWA title as long as Race holds the belt. Race even traveled out of the area and wrestled Backlund in a memorable bout in New York.

The Von Erichs, David, Kevin, and Kerry, continued their remarkable progress and looked to become the new stars of the upcoming decade. All across Texas, the Von Erich brothers confronted and defeated such rulebreakers as Stan Stasiak and Gino Hernandez.

The human interest story of the year belonged to Junkyard Dog. Blinded in an insidious attack, Dog still wrestled, refusing to succumb to his disability.

Such world-travelers as Mil Mascaras and Andre the Giant wrestled before capacity crowds in many different areas. As the year ended, Mil was in Los Angeles feuding with John Tolos.

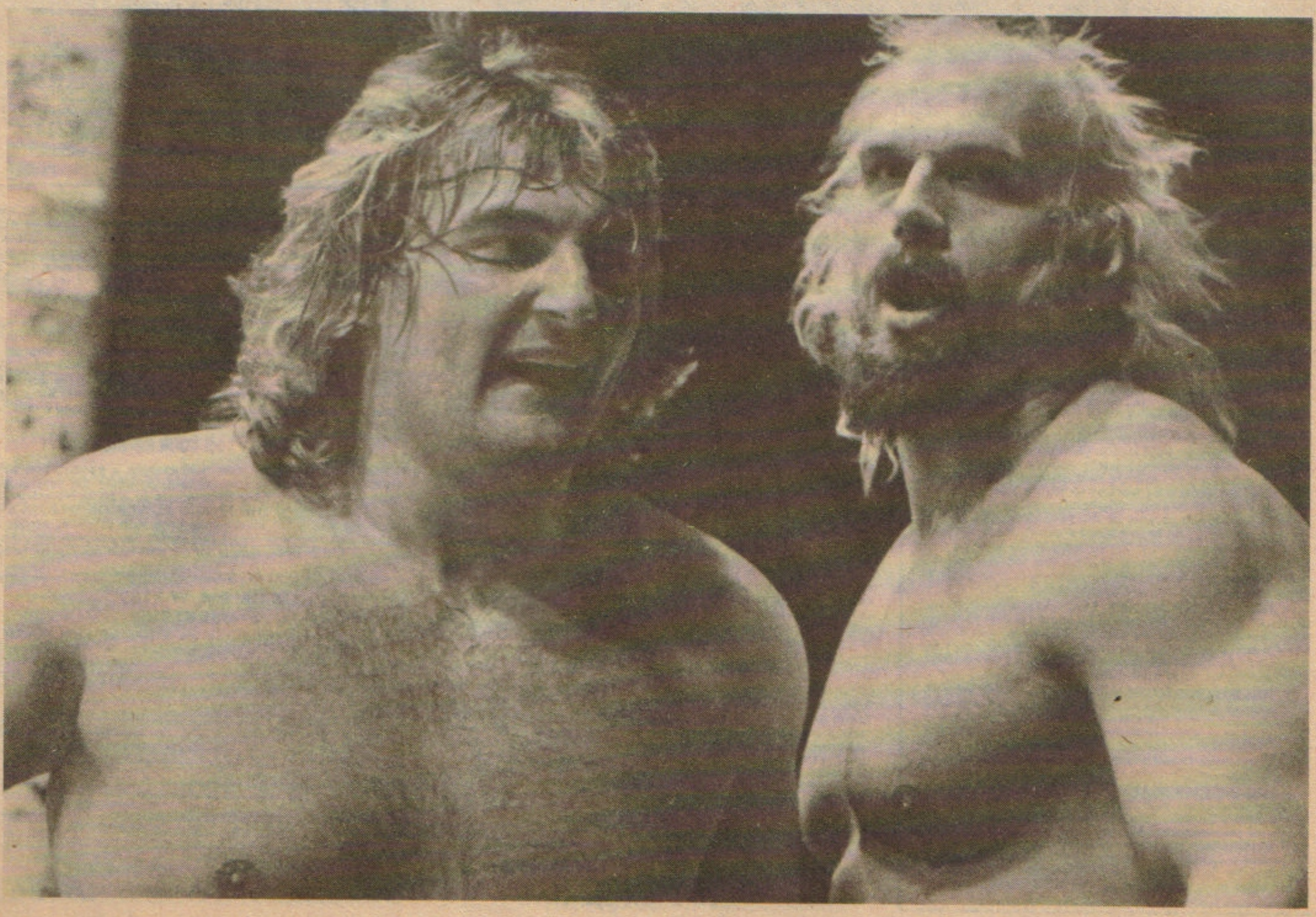
1980. A great, great year.

(Continued on page 12)

PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 10)

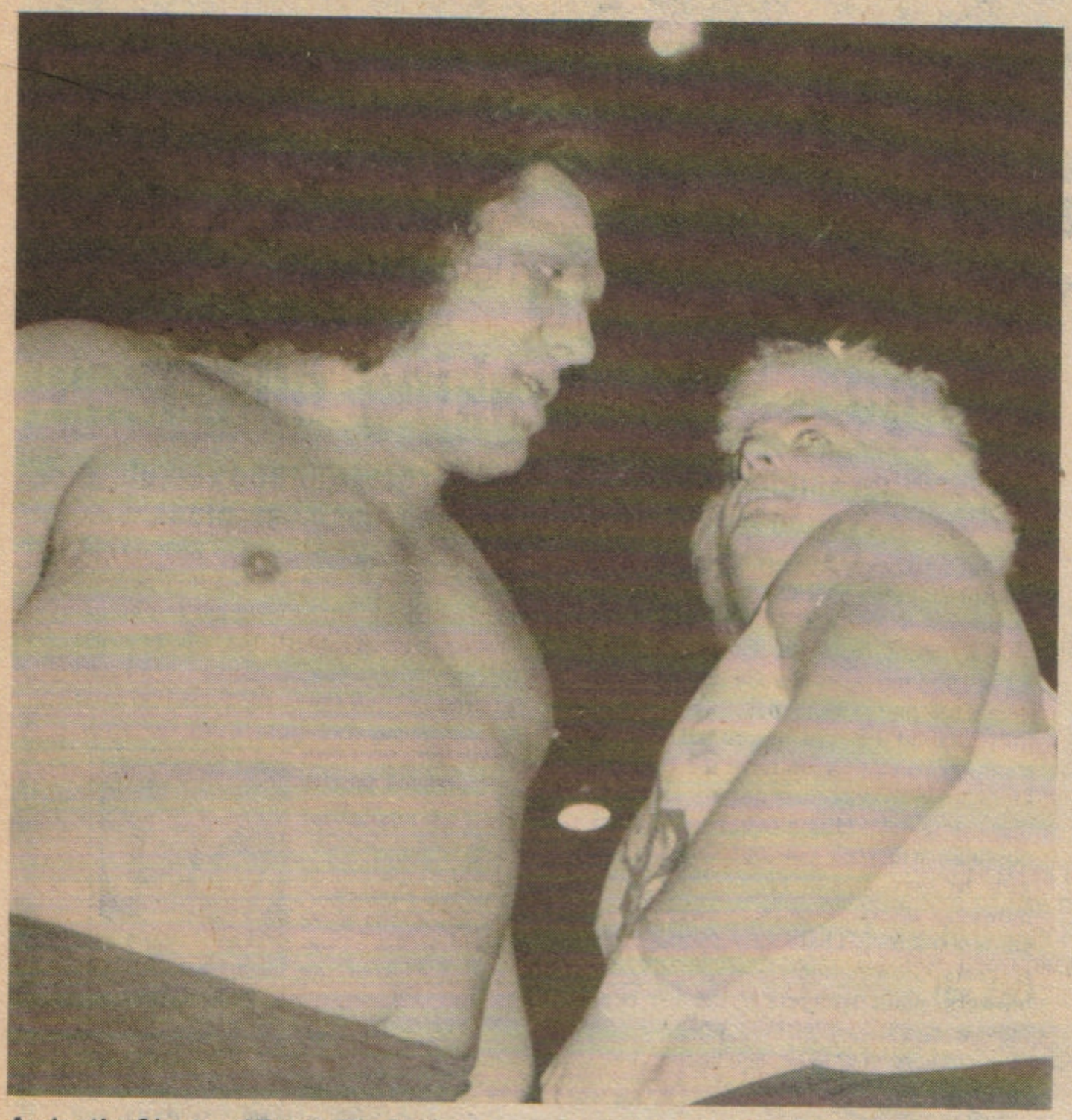
Early in 1980, Sir Oliver Humperdink aids one of his rulebreakers from outside the ring (above left). By the end of the year, Oliver became one of the most beloved men in Florida. WWF champ Bob Backlund captures NWA champ Harley Race in an abdominal stretch during their classic Madison Square Garden confrontation (above right). Adrian Adonis and Jesse Ventura (below) terrorized the AWA.



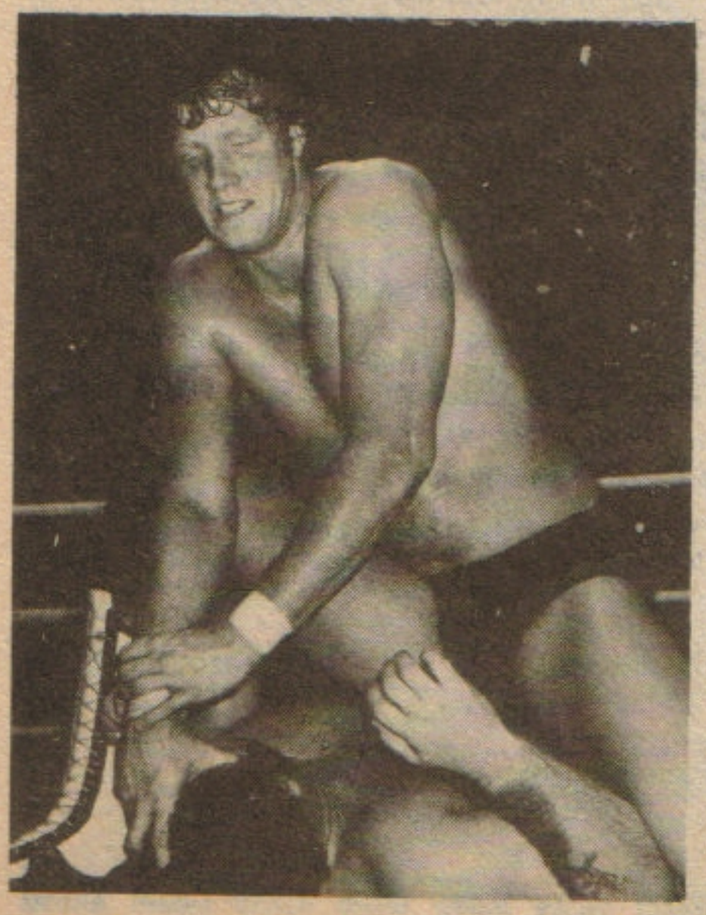
(Continued on page 14)

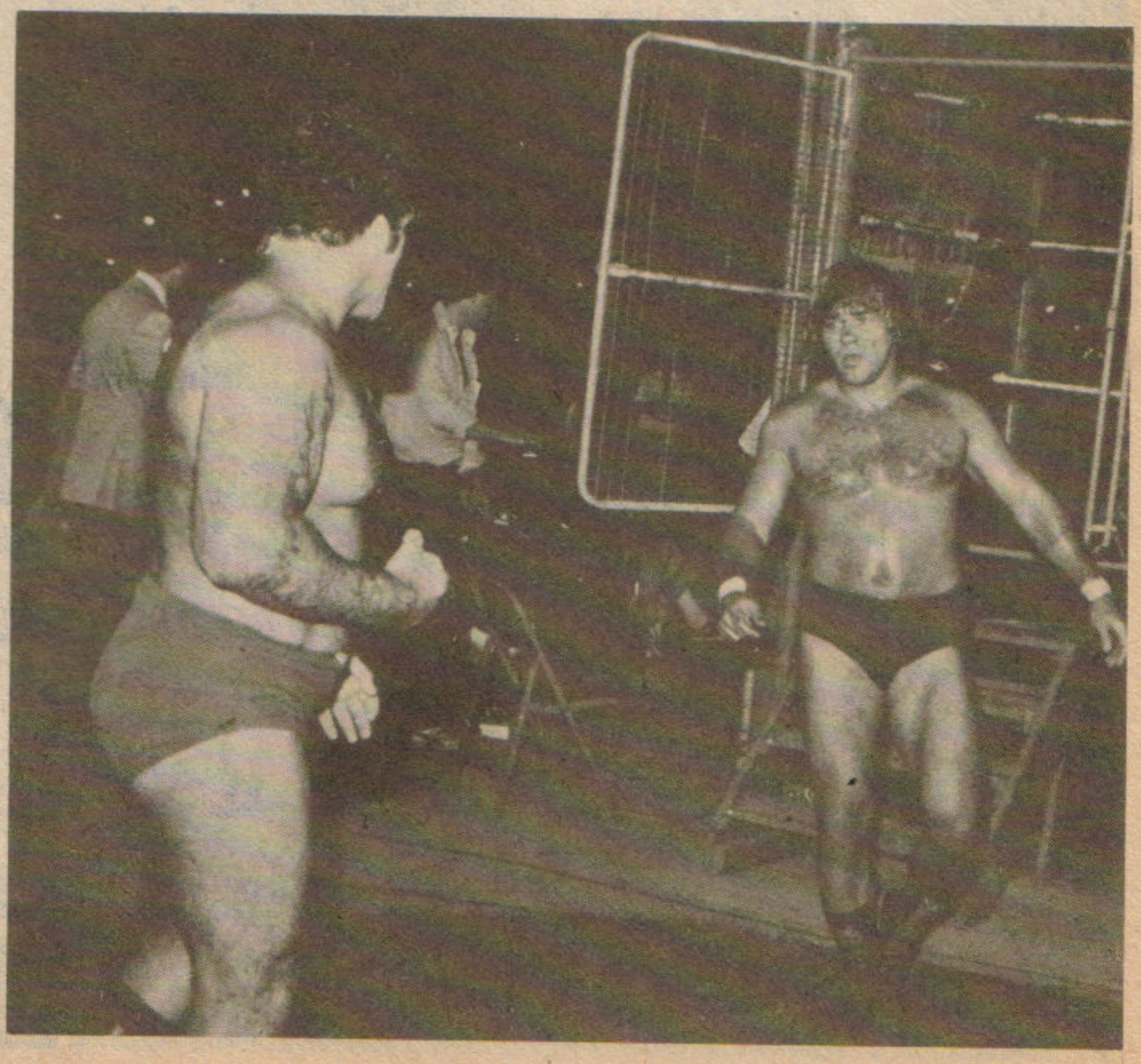
PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 12)



Andre the Giant and Dusty Rhodes (above left) formed the fans' dream team. Ken Patera came back to take Kevin Von Erich's Missouri title (above right). David Von Erich narrowly misses capturing the NWA title from Harley Race (below). Sammartino said he would have retired if Zbyszko defeated him in the cage. Bruno however, emerged victorious (right).





(Continued on page 54)

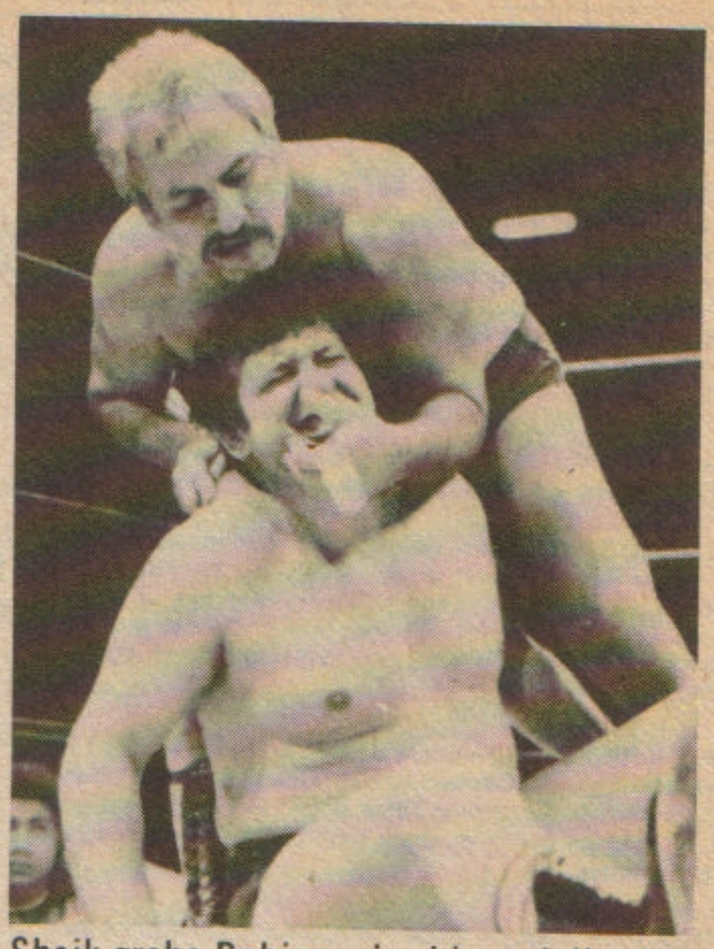
BILLY ROBINSON: "I TRAVELED 10,000 MILES TO

IT WAS AN ordeal to climb the steps into the jet. Billy Robinson's legs were stiff and shooting pains tortured his left knee. His back was sore and his neck couldn't move to the left. At least there were no stitches; one could be thankful for that.

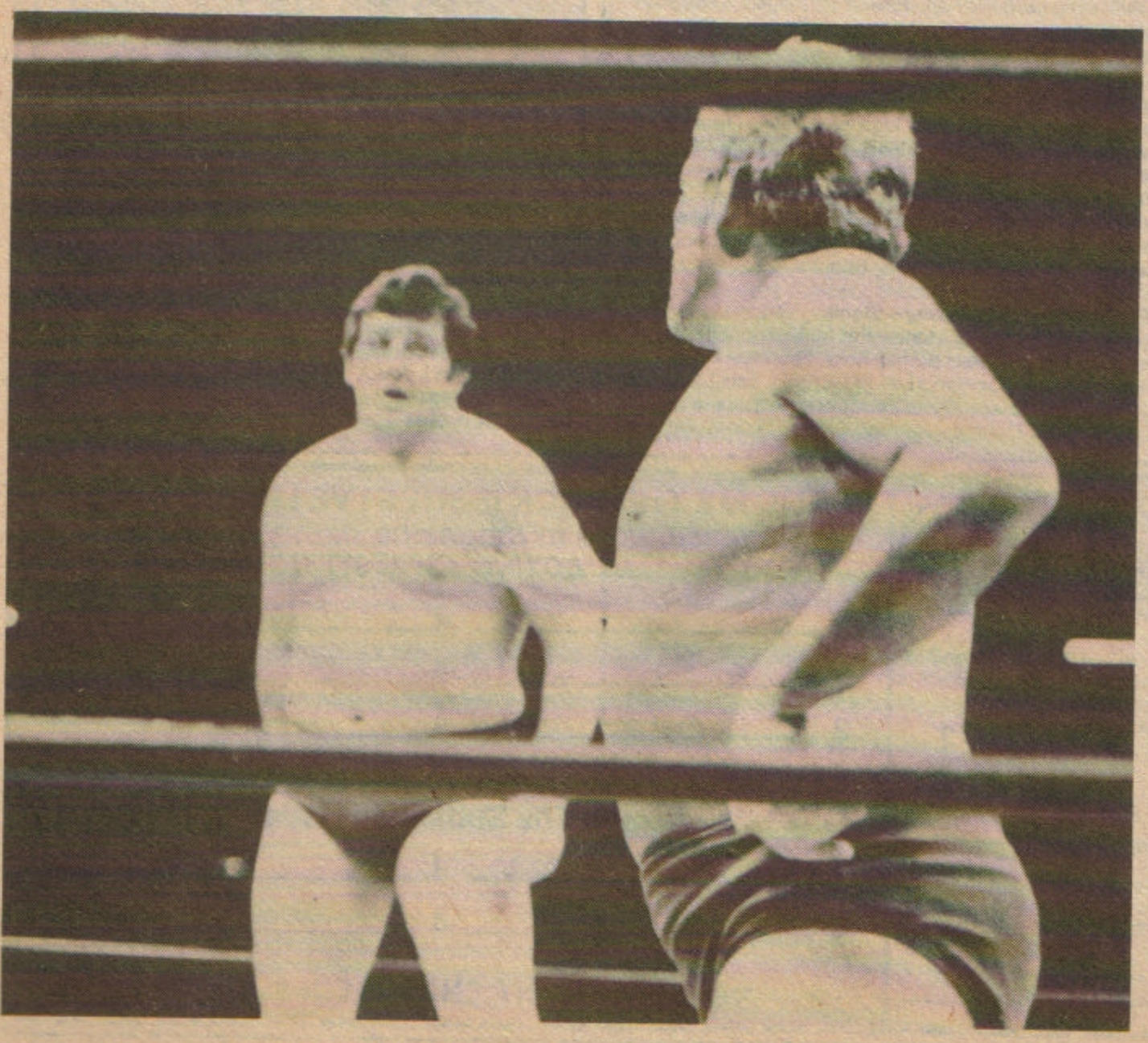
Robinson sank heavily into the airplane seat. He fastened the seatbelt, closed his eyes, and hoped to remain unconscious until the plane landed. There was no sense in remembering the biggest mistake of his entire career.

Sleep would not come. Whenever he dozed off, images of Sheik would torment him. Then he would shift his body, and pain snapped him awake. Robinson stared out the window, looking down upon clouds and ocean. In his mind's eye, all he saw were moments of a match held less than 12 hours before.

Billy had begged for this battle. He thought he could finally rid wrestling of Sheik. His plan was simple: wrestle Sheik in Japan. Away from familiar surroundings, with officials not yet afraid of Sheik's wrath, he would have an even chance. Those are better odds than one can get anywhere else against Sheik.



Sheik grabs Robinson's chin and digs his fingernails into Billy's face as the British star cries out in pain.



It took over a month to arrange the battle. It cost Robinson over $5,000 in cancelled bookings, but Billy didn't care. This chance might come but once in his lifetime, and it had to be taken. If only it had succeeded.

Last night, Billy reflected, he was sure of success. He thought every consideration had been taken, every possibility explored. Sheik would be set for

Sheik begs for mercy when Robinson takes the advantage. Billy will show no mercy and begin battering the Arabian madman.

humiliating defeat. The only worry Robinson had was that Sheik wouldn't show. Sheik showed. That's when Robinson learned what he really had to worry about.

Billy will never forget the look on Sheik's face as the Arab grappler stared at him from across the ring. There was cold ferocity in Sheik's eyes that reminded Robinson of a cornered wolf ready to battle to the death. For the first time that evening, Robinson wondered if he might have underestimated Sheik. The answer would come soon enough.

The bell sounded. Sheik rushed at Robinson. Billy sidestepped, only to have Sheik kick him in the belly. That set the pattern of the match. The Japanese referee was overwhelmed by Sheik's savagery. The helpless official was unable to detect the brilliantly concealed cheating. Robinson knew his dream of shackling Sheik to the rules was lost during the first minute of the match.

From that moment on, Sheik was a tornado of terror. He gouged, kicked, punched, bit, and pummeled. A wrestler of lesser stature than Robinson would have been carted out of the arena on a stretcher. At times, Billy even managed to mount an offense. But no wrestler can conquer a savage madman. Robinson didn't have a chance.

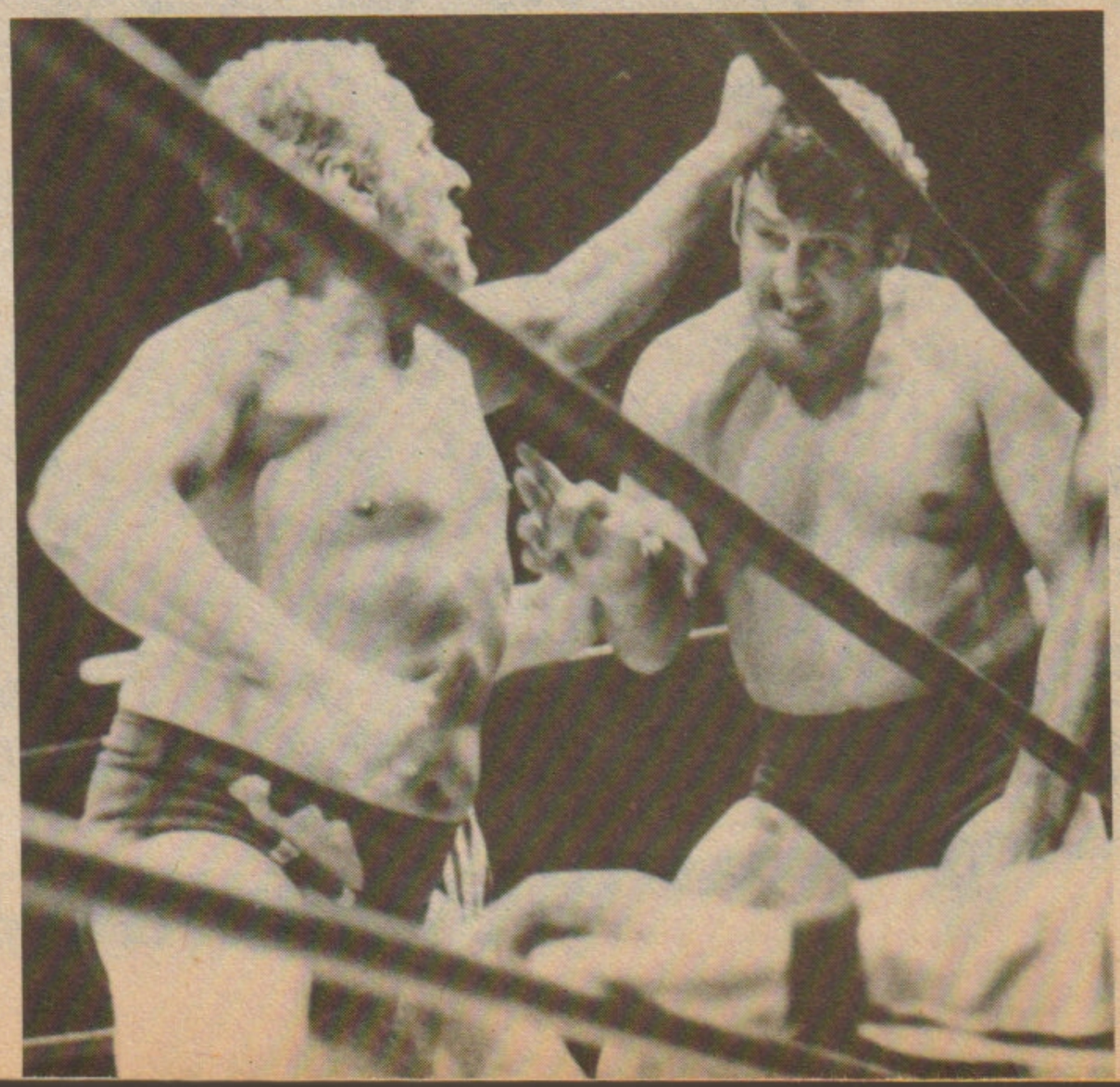
Sheik didn't try to blind Robinson by hurling flames at the grappler, a horrifying Sheik trick. Instead, the Arab gouged his fingers into Robinson's eyes. In ancient times, Arabian warriors used to blind their enemies in such a manner. Today, Sheik is the one man who can execute flawlessly this ancient maneuver. As his fingers worked their way with terrifying expertise into Robinson's eye sockets, the Japanese referee disqualified Sheik. The Arab turned away from Robinson and started toward the referee. However, Sheik wasn't mad enough to attack the official. In Japan, that would constitute assault and battery, since it's illegal to touch an official during an athletic contest. Sheik had no desire to waste away in a Tokyo jail cell for 10 years.

Sheik rushed back to the dressing room while Robinson watched him flee. With Sheik left all of Billy's hopes. Even in Japan, Sheik can be the dirtiest wrestler in the world.

Later in the dressing room, Robinson talked to the press.

Billy Robinson always believed there was a place and a way to defeat Sheik. He traveled half way around the world to prove it. Sometimes it's better to stay at home

GET MUGGED"



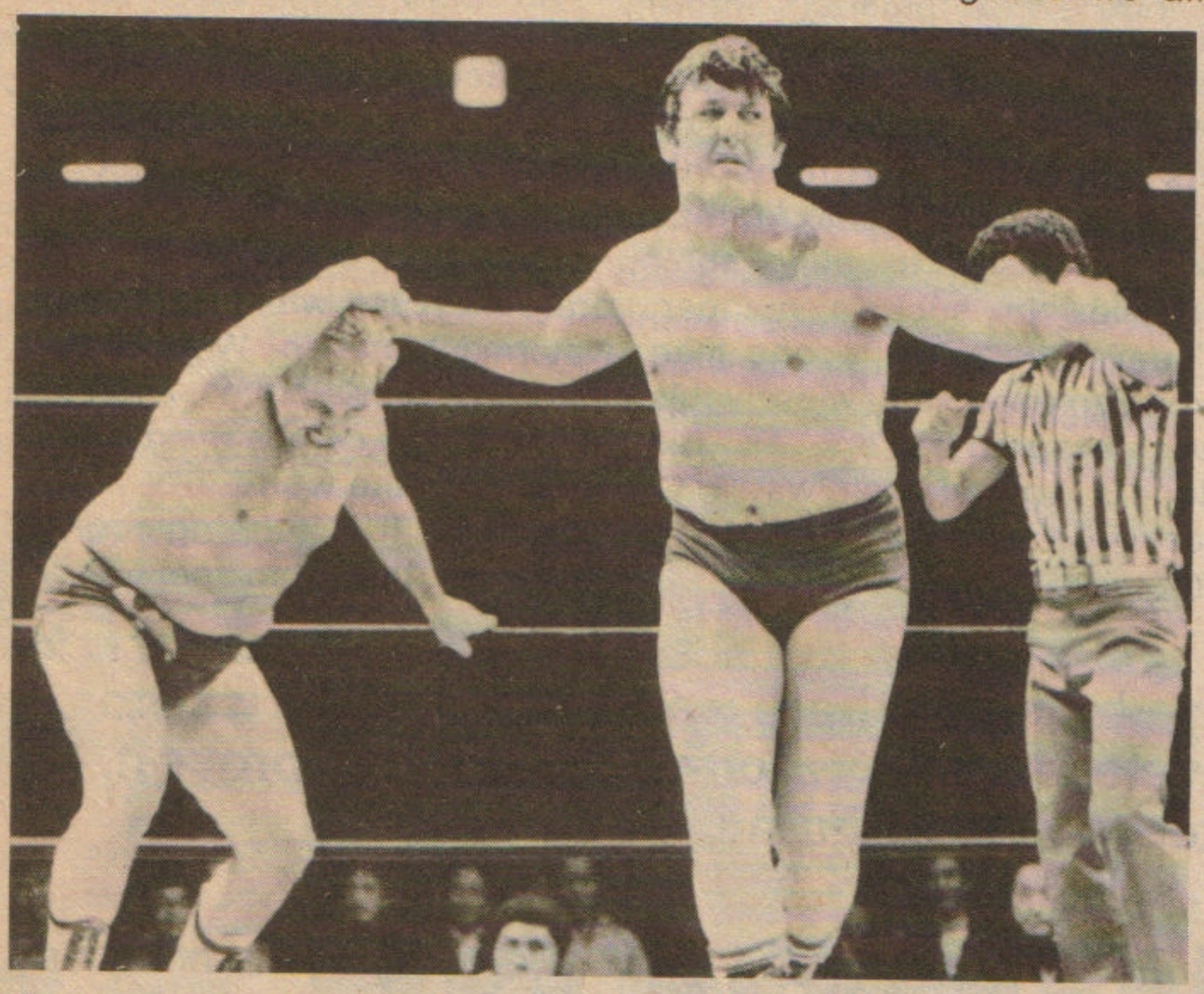
Sheik corners Robinson and begins to punch his trapped opponent. Billy realizes scientific maneuvers cannot be used against this madman.

His voice was soft with disappointment. The interview was briefer than usual. Robinson was in pain, both physical and mental.

"Sheik is an outlaw," Robinson stated ruefully, "and his villainy can't be stopped anywhere in the world. He is more cunning than any referee. I'm the outlaw's victim. I traveled 10,000 miles to get mugged. I guess I should have known better. I guess we all should have known better."

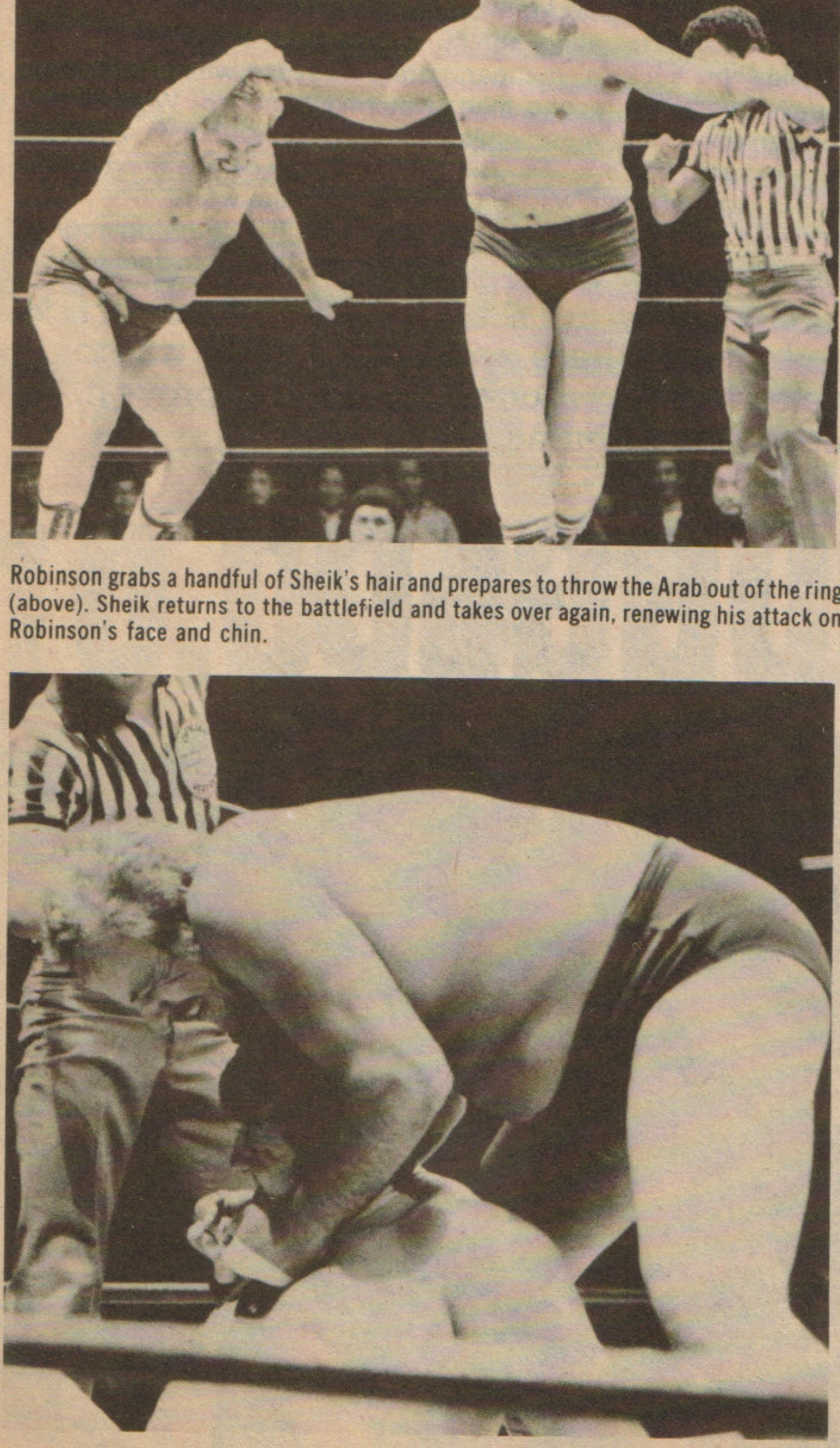
Nobody pressed Robinson with questions. Everyone respected the man's sorrow. They let Billy tend to his wounds in peace.

Billy recalled all this as the



Robinson grabs a handful of Sheik's hair and prepares to throw the Arab out of the ring (above). Sheik returns to the battlefield and takes over again, renewing his attack on Robinson's face and chin.

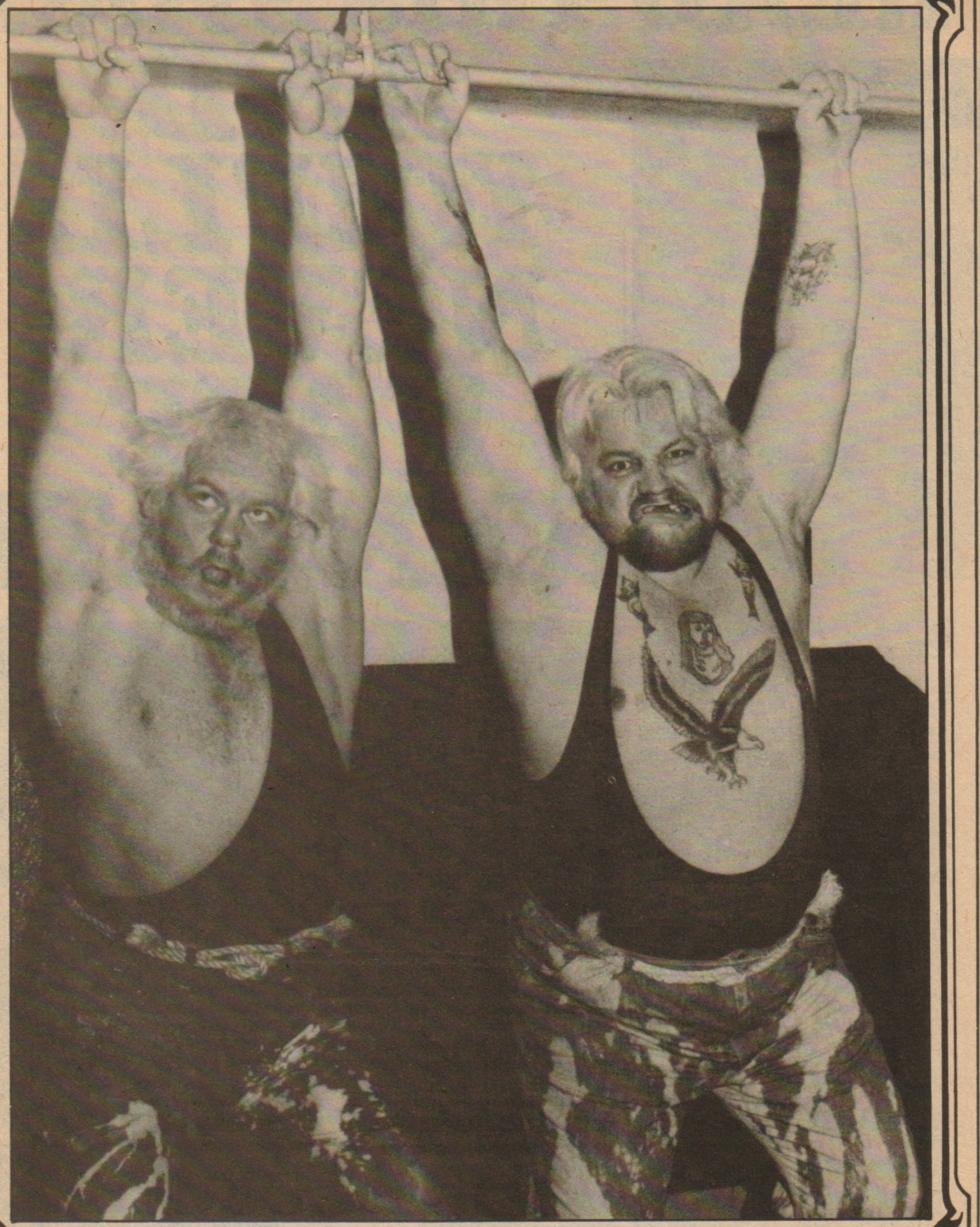
The tide of battle switches both ways (above and below) as both take turns with vicious maneuvers.



plane sped toward the United States. He would soon be home. He'd hoped to return a conquering hero, the man who brought down Sheik. Instead, he was just another crusader failing to defeat the wrestling's most fearsome grappler.

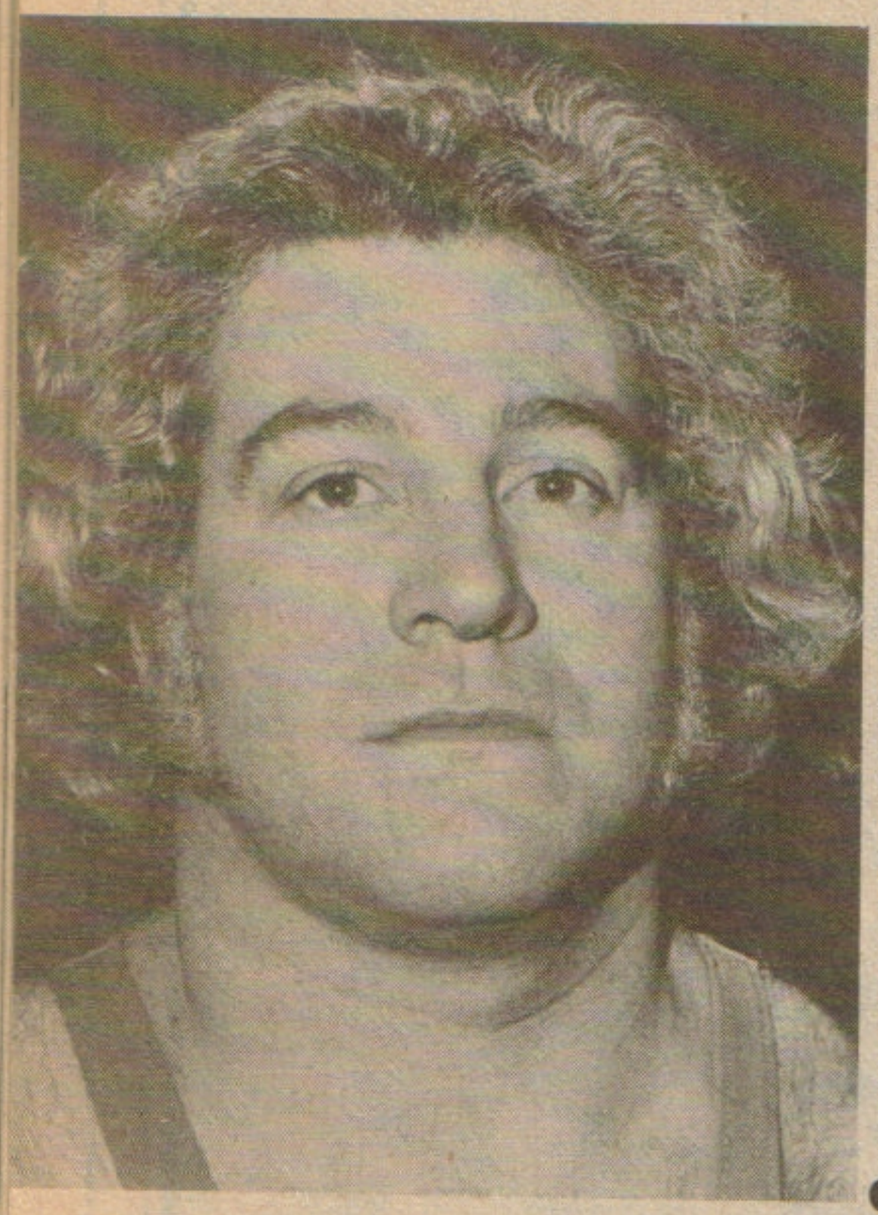
The plane set down. Robinson hobbled off. It was time to look toward his next challenge. □

SPORTS REVIEW ANNUAL PINUP



THE MOONDOGS

READ THIS STORY AND YOU'LL NEVER HATE KEN PATE



IT ALL STARTED three years ago. At the time, no one expected that things would turn out as they did. It all seemed quite innocent; an interested party simply helping out a troubled teenager so he could get on with the business of living. But nothing is simple. Nothing is innocent.

And nothing comes easy in this life. Not even generous acts.

At the time, Ken Patera was just another rookie wrestler in the Mid-Atlantic region. He had earned a degree of fame, but not much. He was going nowhere in his career, but that is another story. This is about Tadd Martey, and the friendship he has with Ken Patera.

Tadd had no ambitions to be an athlete. He just wanted to protect himself from four of his schoolmates. He was their favorite target, the one who was constantly the object of their adsolescent anger. They mocked him, taunted him, dared him, then ganged up on him. He never stood a chance. He wanted to change all that.

It was just another gym, but to Tadd it represented a glimmer of hope. He just wanted to build himself up. He just wanted to be able to defend himself against his tormentors, the cruel gang of four. But there was a catch: the gym wanted money for Tadd to train there. Tadd had none. He lived with his mother, a broken-down alcholic shrew who would occasionally beat him. There was no money in the house save the pennies the welfare provided. Tadd lived in fear of his home, of his school, of his life.

Without money, Tadd was not allowed the chance to train. However, the gym owner did allow him to sit and watch, possibly picking up a few hints from other people. It was an act of pity.

Ken Patera happened into this particular gym one day. He was in the city for a wrestling show, and he wanted to get in a few hours of training. At the time, he was still a

Even rulebreakers get the blues, and Ken Patera is no exception. This touching story will make his detractors realize that Ken is only human, subject to the same frailties as anyone else

RA AGAIN

fan favorite. As he was working out, he saw a teenager intensely watching his every move. It was Tadd, admiring the work Ken was doing. Indeed, the young man was awed.

Patera was curious. Why did Tadd just sit there, staring, not saying a word? Ken approached him, trying to engage Tadd in conversation. The shy teenager was reluctant to talk at first, but Patera was reassuring. He asked to be trusted. And with a little prodding, he was.

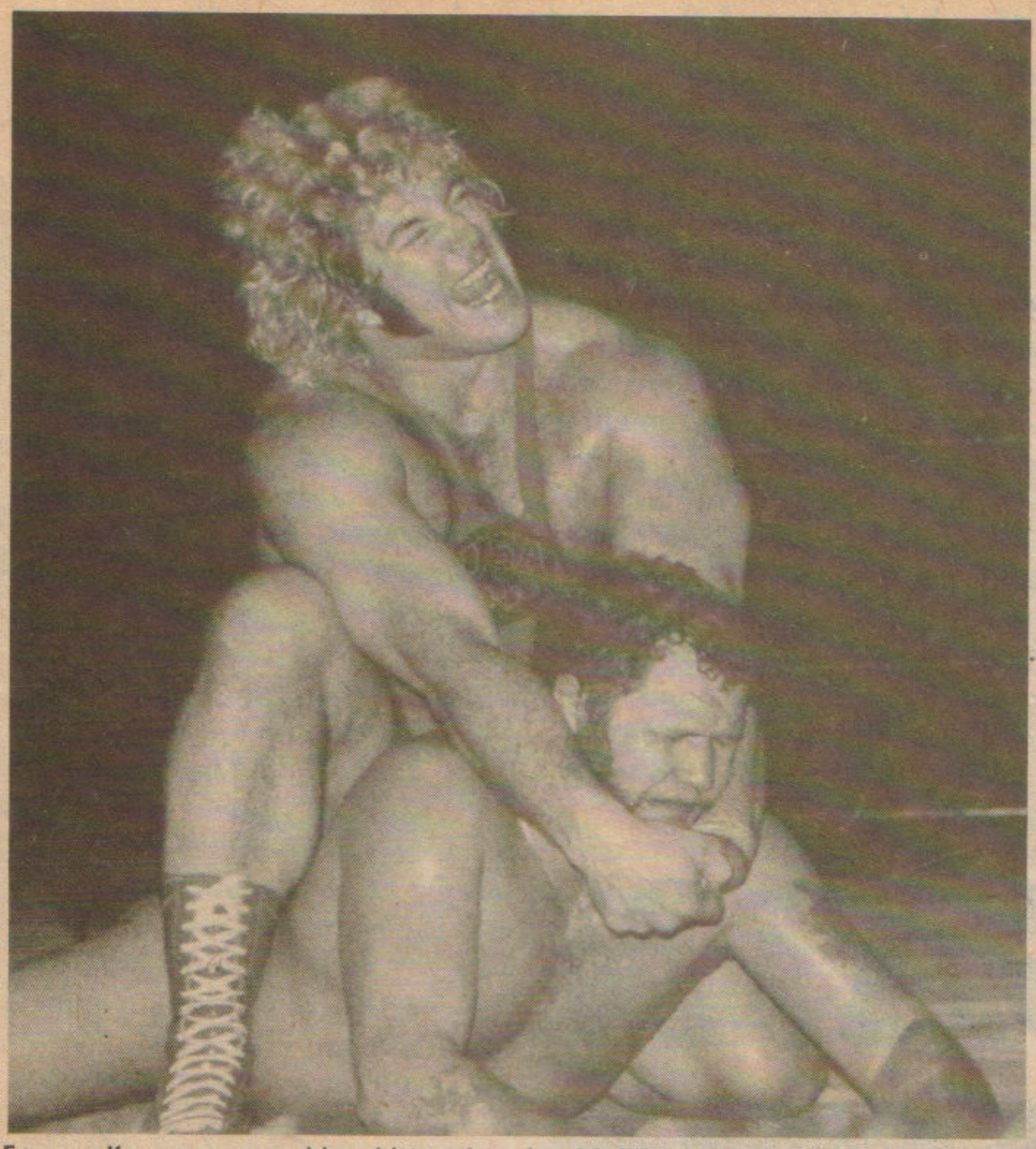
Tadd Martey's whole sad story came out. He told Patera of the beatings from his schoolmates and his mother, of the poverty, of his loneliness and his sorrow. Ken was stunned. As successful as Ken's life had been, Tadd Martey's life had been miserable. The wrestler took pity on the boy. But pity alone could not help Tadd, and Ken knew it.

Over the next few weeks, Patera and Tadd developed their friendship. The first thing Ken did was pay for the boy to start training sessions at the gym. He met with Mrs. Martey and tried to also straighten her out. At first, she wouldn't listen. But she soon gave in. Ken helped find her a job. He tried to get her off the booze.

If this was the best of all possible worlds, this story would end here. But this is not the best of all worlds. Things change. Patera changed. He moved to the WWWF. He became a rule-breaker. But the relationship between Ken and the Marteys did not change. Tadd still looked up to Patera as an idol, a friend, a mentor who had been the most positive force to ever walk into his life. The mother stopped drinking. Ken still made occasional visits to the Marteys, encouraging them, helping them, giving them moral support. Tadd and his mother even started getting along with each other.

In school, Tadd would boast of his close relationship with the wrestler. But this backfired on him. It backfired badly on him.

For one young man, Ken's viciousness against men like Tony Garea (above) or Bruno (left), meant little. He knew Patera to be a generous man at heart.



Even as Ken was engaged in a bitter struggle with NWA champion Harley Race, Tadd Martey was fighting for his life. The young man's defense of the hated rulebreaker proved to be too costly for all concerned.

Because of what was happening in the WWWF, it became increasingly difficult for Tadd to defend Ken's actions. His schoolmates continued to treat him with derision, and now for added reason. Every time they heard a story about Ken crippling another opponent, they would taunt Tadd. But the young man still had faith in his friend. He continued to defend Ken.

It had to happen. It was inevitable.

As he was walking home from school one day, Tadd was jumped by four schoolmates. "This is for your friend Ken Patera," they screamed at him. They beat him senseless. They left him on the street, bleeding, broken, battered. The police rushed him to the hospital.

Ken hurried down to Virginia when he heard what had happened. By the time he reached the hospital, Tadd was just coming out of surgery. The boy's mother was drunk. She cursed at Patera. "Look what you've done to him," she cried. "Damn this world! Damn you! I hope you burn in hell!" She collapsed in his arms, drunk, tired, sobbing.

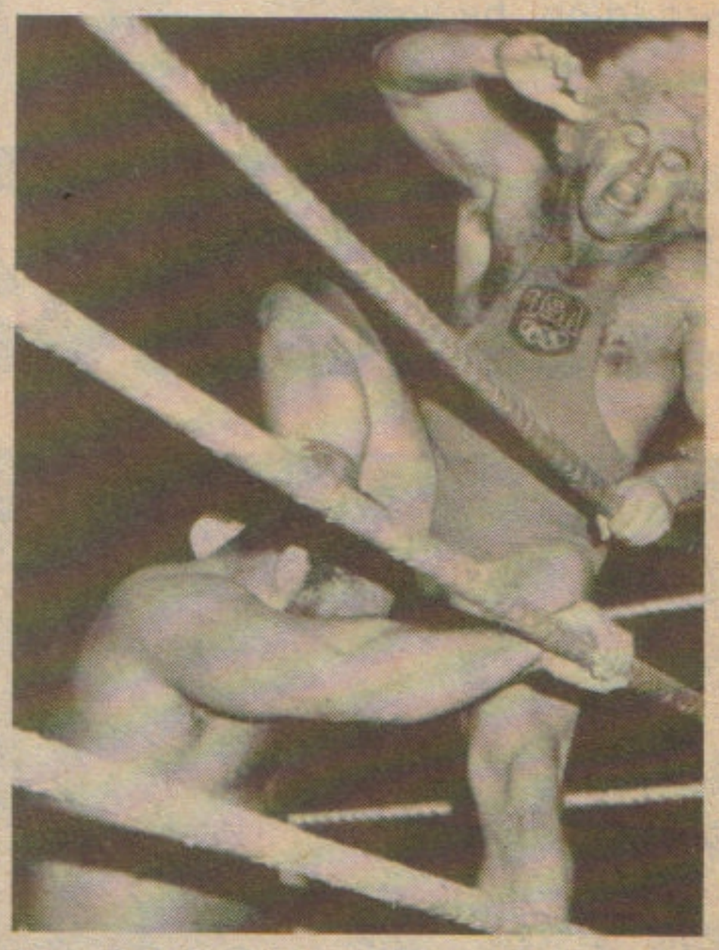
The next day, Ken was allowed to visit the boy. It was the most depressing scene of his entire life. There lay Tadd Martey on the hospital bed. Tubes were running out of his nose and mouth. Another tube was running from his arm, feeding him with vital plasma. Electrodes were attached to the sides of his head. Every heartbeat, every breath he took, every brainwave was being monitored on a machine near his bed. He was barely conscious. Ken could hardly hold back the tears upon seeing the sight. Yet Tadd's eyes brightened when he saw the wrestler.

Ken tried to force a smile. It was difficult. Then he said, "I'm sorry this had to happen to you, Tadd. I never meant for you to take this kind of pain. Please forgive me. It's all my fault.

"No, Ken," replied the boy, "it's not your fault. I don't blame you for what happened."

Patera turned away, preparing to leave. Then Tadd called out, "Ken when I grow up, I want to be like you."

Ken wept.



Ivan Putski falls victim to another of Ken's vicious moves. All wrestling fans should know there is a kind side to Ken.

Tadd recovered slowly. Only his will to survive saw him through the crisis. Ken visited the boy as often as possible, cancelling several matches in order to be in Virginia. Even now, there are still some scars, both physical and psychological, left on Tadd.

It is a joyous occasion whenever Ken visits the Marteys. He still helps them. But he still feels guilty for what happened to Tadd. There are some wounds which never heal, no matter what kind of medicine is administered. Guilt lasts forever. □

SPORTS REVIEW ANNUAL PINUP

PAUL JONES & MASKED SUPERSTAR

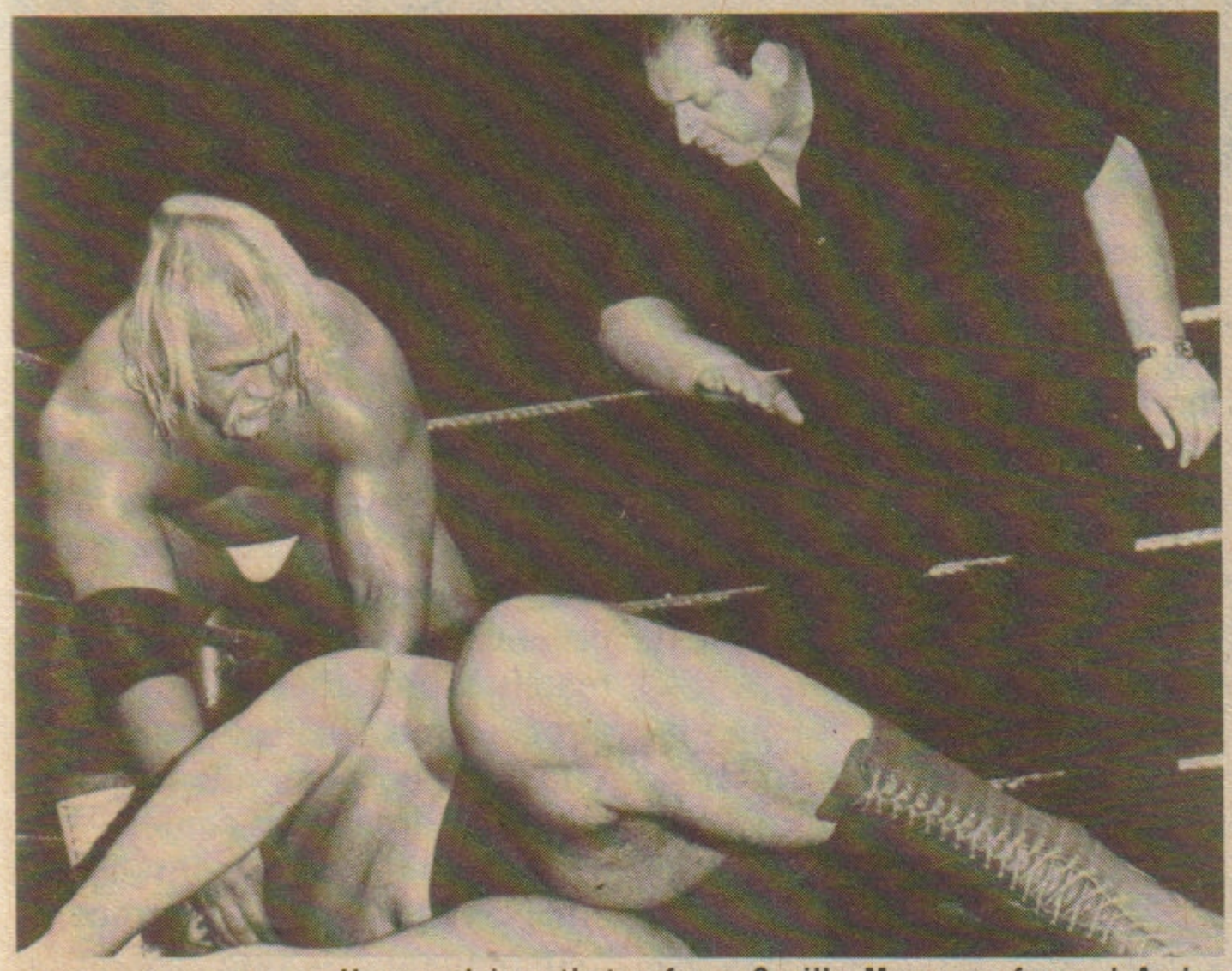
Why Hulk Hogan Says "I'VE SHATTERED THE MYTH OF

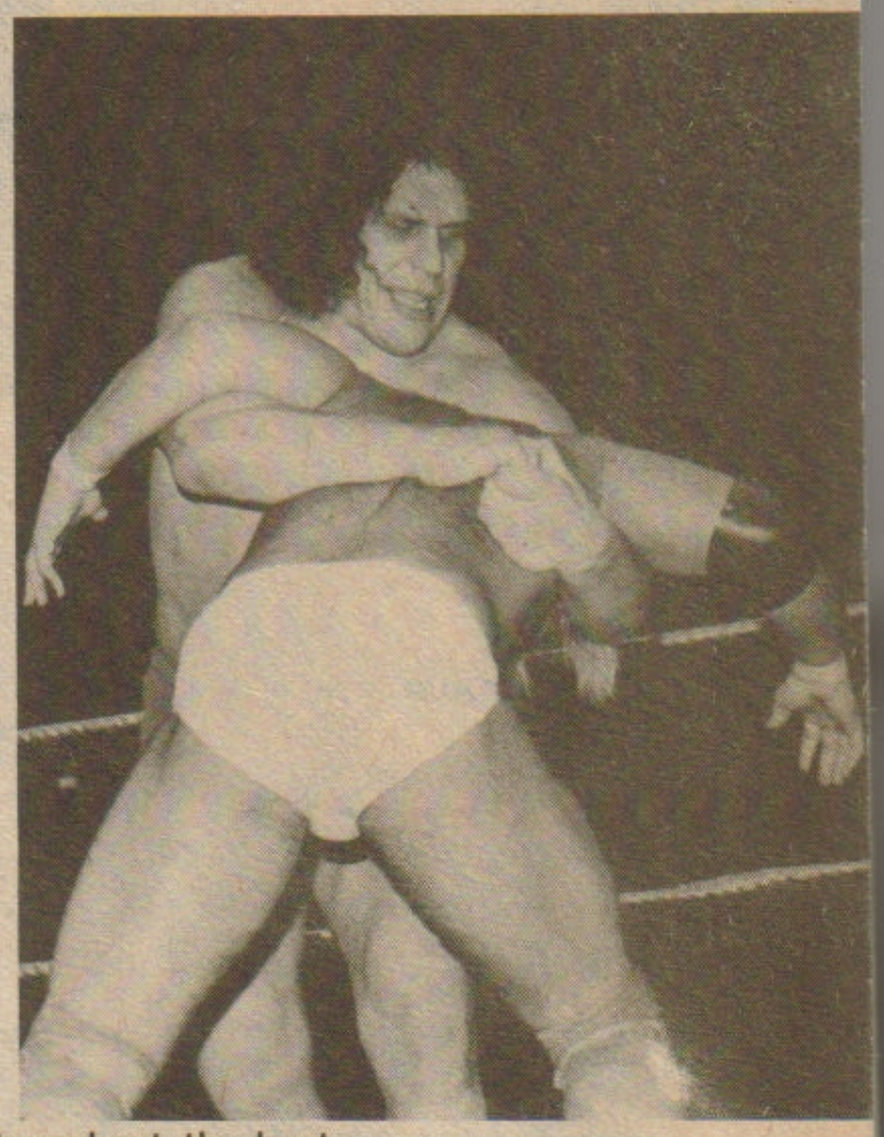
PHOTOS BY STU SAKS

Hulk Hogan, at 6-8, is dwarfed by 7-4 Andre the Giant.

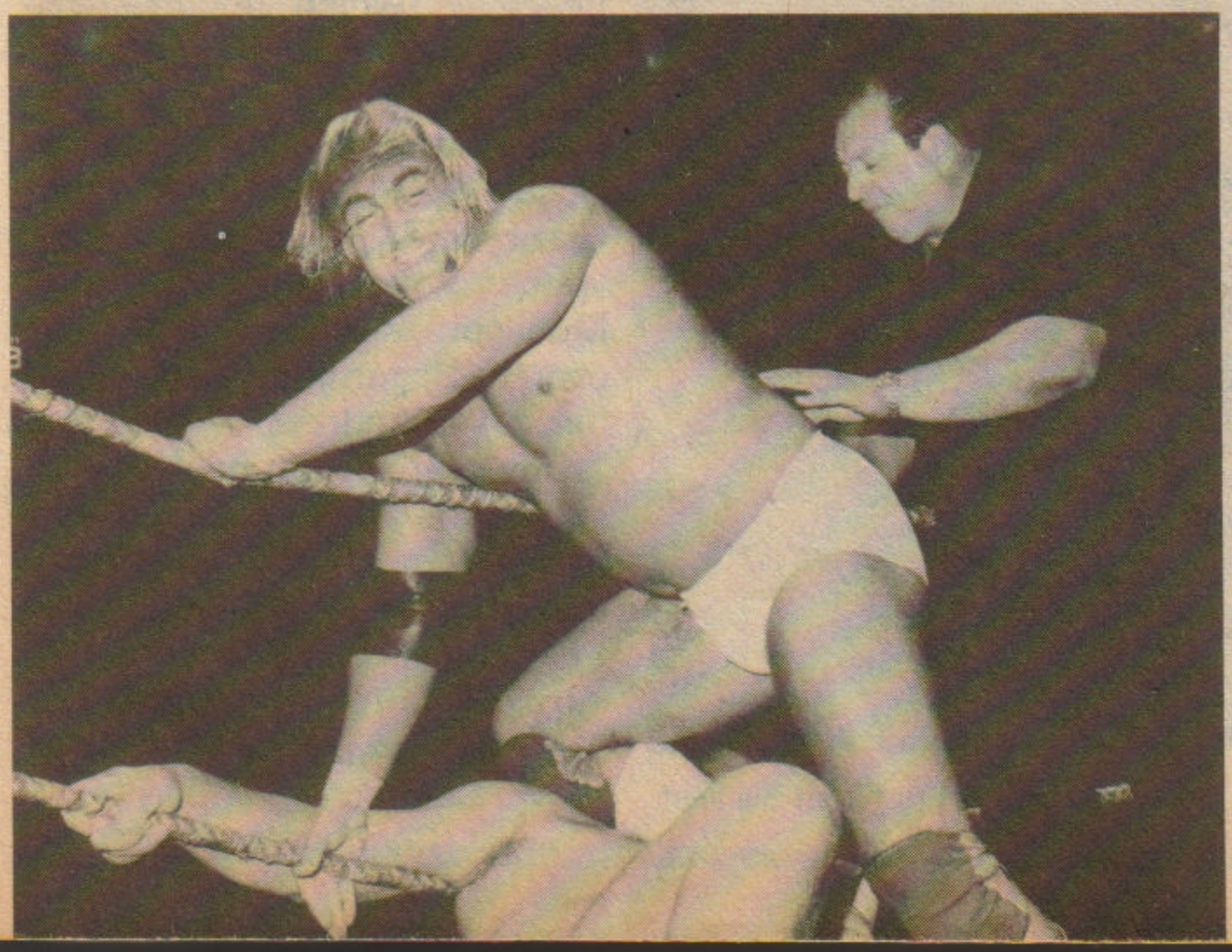
When legends shatter, the crash can be heard around the world. Over the course of his career, Andre the Giant has cultivated a legend exceeding even his great size. Many believe him to be invincible. Many believe him to be a kind and just man. Now Hulk Hogan says that just isn't so

ANDRE THE GIANT!"





Hogan claims that referee Gorilla Monsoon favored Andre throughout the bout. Monsoon intervenes as Hulk chokes Andre (above left and below). Andre uses his tremendous leverage to take the advantage (above right).



HOW DID HULK HOGAN do it? And if he isn't guilty of tampering with tape recording devices, why did Andre the Giant do it?

"Listen to this, man." Hogan placed the black tape recorder on the antique coffee table, pressed a switch and hunched forward in earnest interest.

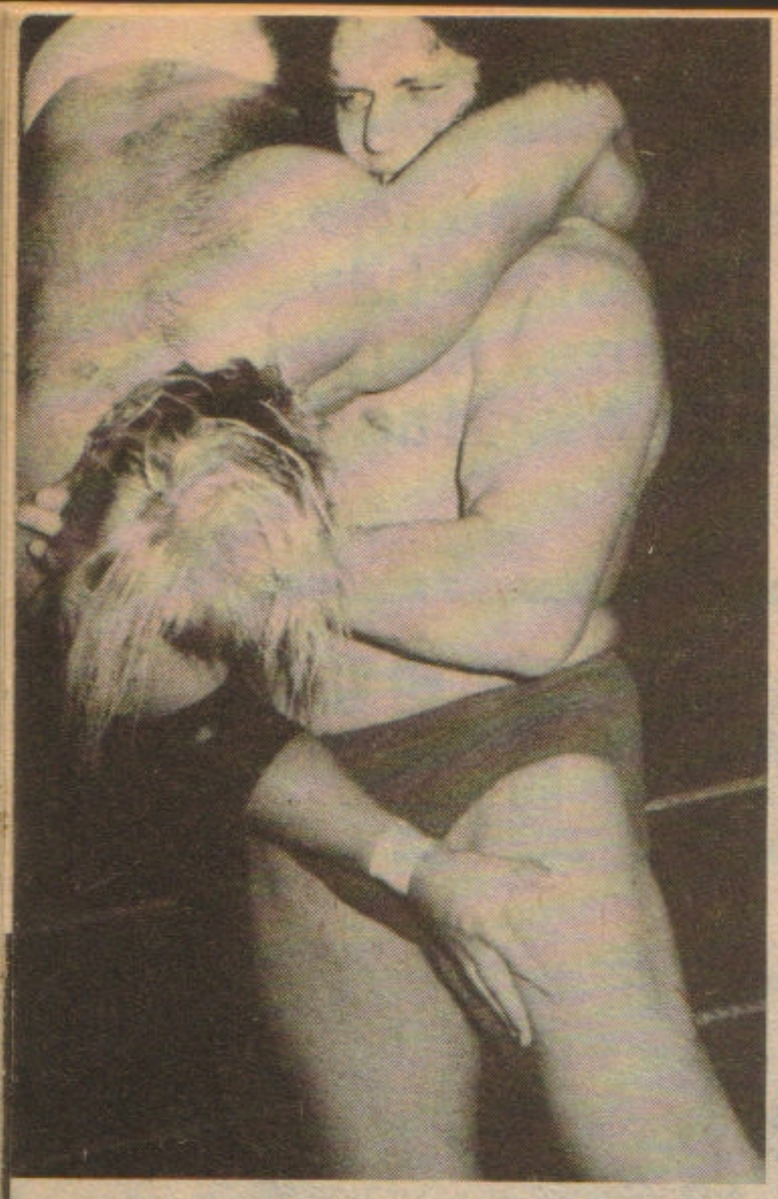
"Andre?" crackled a booming voice which sounded like Gorilla Monsoon.

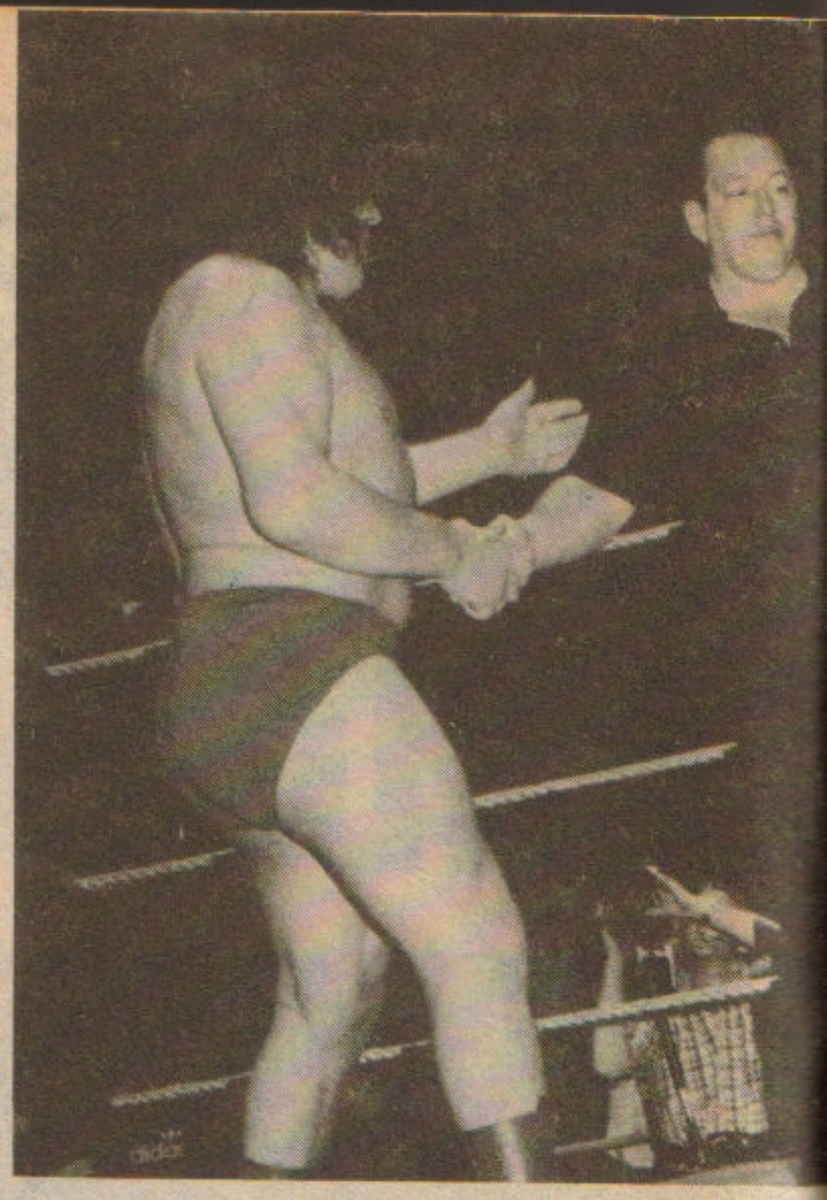
"Gorilla, yes, this is Andre," said the other voice.

"Is everything set?"

"Yes."

"We go forward with the first





Andre lifts Hogan with ease and drives him to the canvas (above left). Monsoon declares Hogan the victor (above center) and congratulates him (above right). Was Monsoon in cahoots with Andre, as Hogan charges?

phase of Plan Wipeout," said Monsoon. "Are you ready for Big Blond?"

"Yes."

"You have no hesitation, do you?"

"None."

"Good. See you soon. We should have no further communication until the match. Remember, I'm the referee for the bout."

"Correct."

Hogan switched off the recorder and leaped in the air, his handsome face contorted with vicious glee.

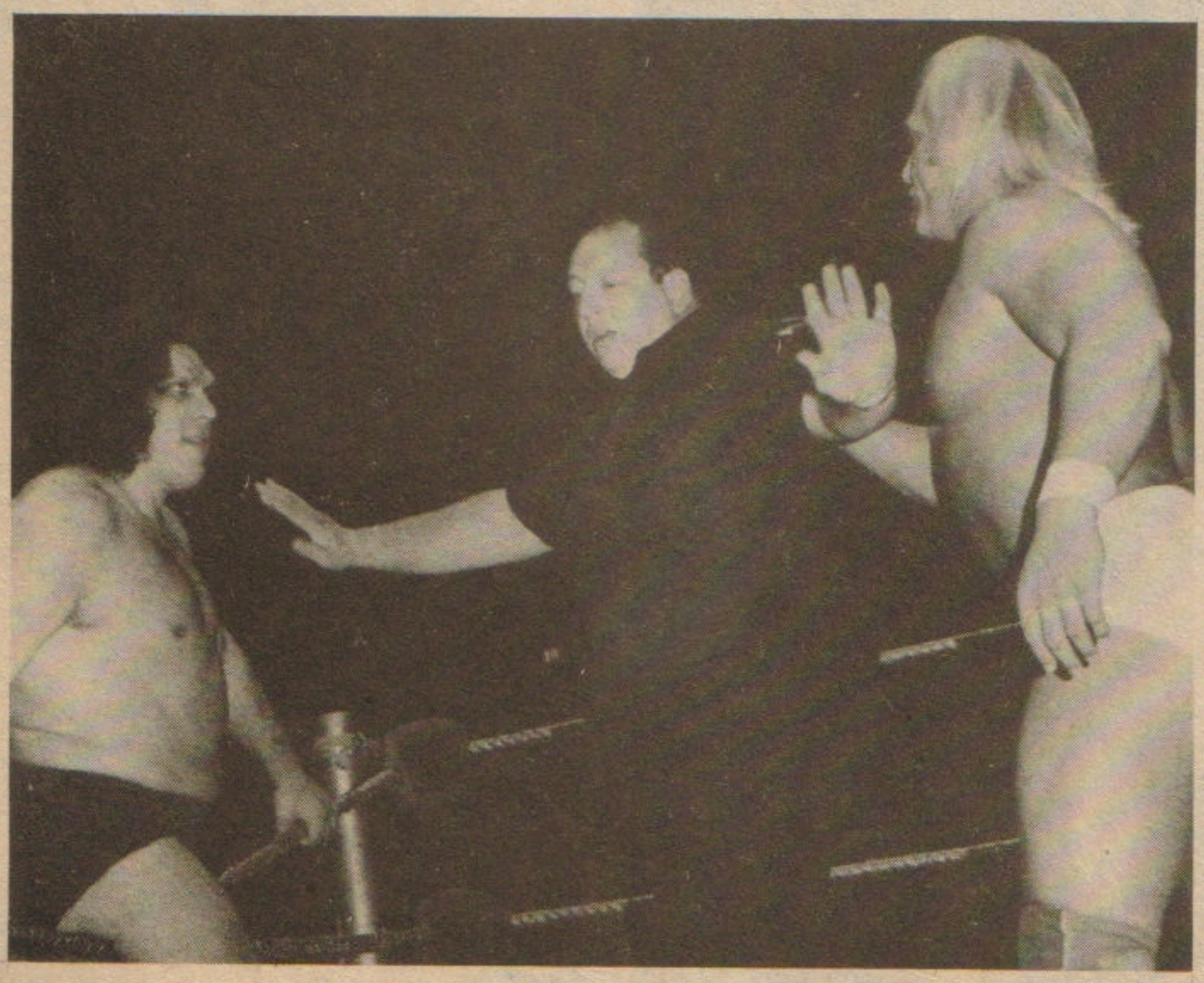
"See that, man, just listen to that. That freak Andre and that fat slob Monsoon planned on attackin' me. And the WWF claims Monsoon is an impartial referee! They're gonna try and wipe us all out. You guys need any further proof, all you gotta do is check out the films of the match when those two bums attacked me."

In a matter of minutes, Hogan set up a screen and camera. He doused the living room lights and played the film of his recent match against Andre.

"Now watch this." On the screen, Hogan had Andre in a headlock which might have been a chokehold. Hogan poked the screen with a pointer. "See how Andre signals Monsoon." Hogan froze the film on the Giant waving his arms. "Now watch what happens next." Monsoon, the referee, lumbered over to Hogan and tried to pull him off of Andre.

However, Hogan neglected to show the illegal holds and foreign object he'd introduced into the match. Perhaps that precipitated Monsoon's intrusion into the action. But how to explain the taped conversation?

(Continued on page 65)



Monsoon keeps Hogan away from Andre as the Giant leaves the ring after the bout.

THE MATCH THAT CHANGED TOMMY RICH FOREVER

REPORTERS CROWDED NEAR the dressing room door. For the past 20 minutes, they'd listened to grunts of pain from inside. Tommy Rich was getting stitched up from huge gashes inflicted by Super Destroyer.

Finally, the doctor emerged. "Will he be okay, doc?" a reporter asked. The doctor was silent for a moment before answering. He finally replied, "The gashes will heal. I can't say about the other wounds."

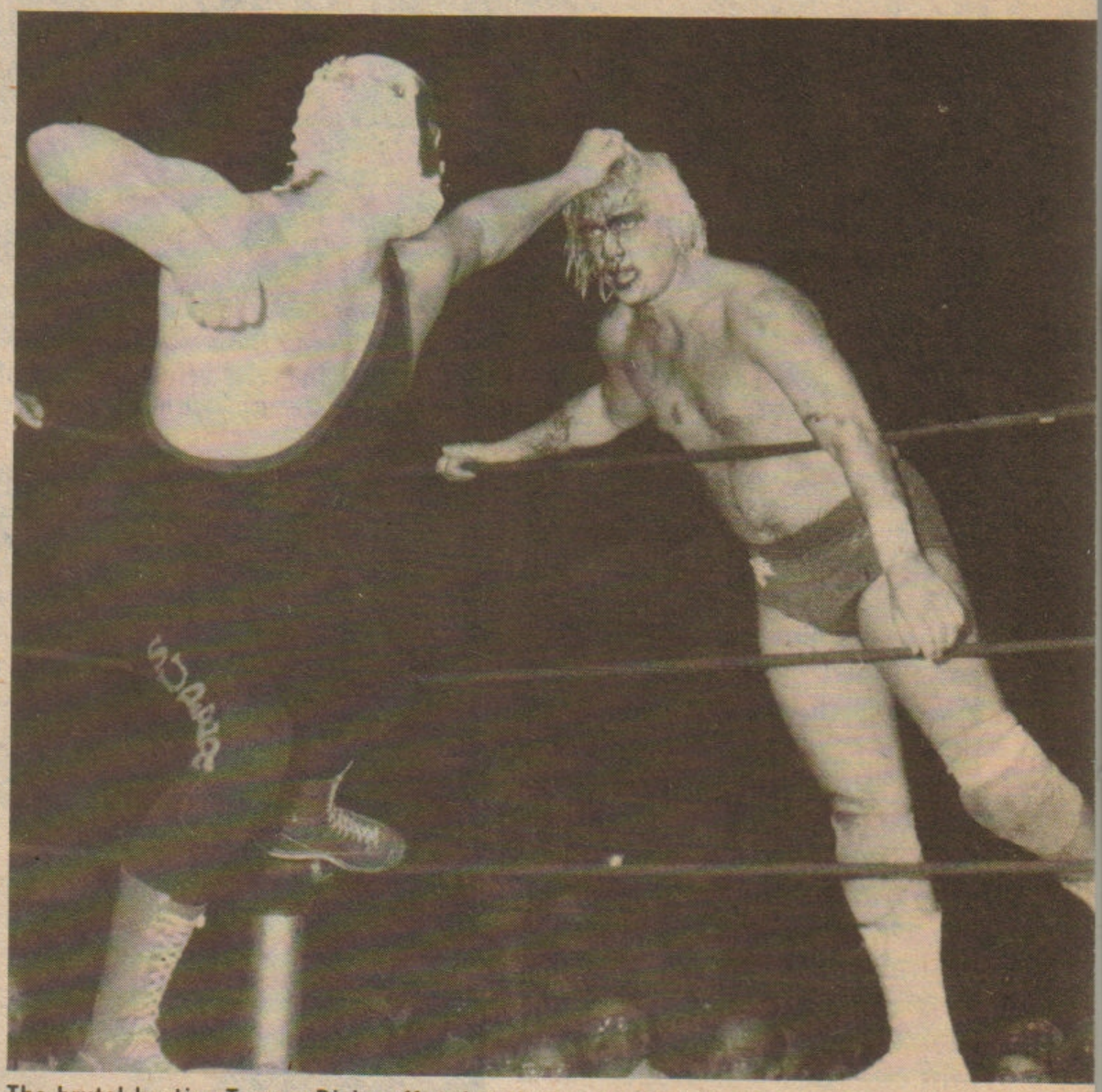
"Other wounds? Internal injuries?"

The doctor smiled joylessly. "I guess you could call it internal injuries. I'm not talking about physical damage."

"What are you talking about, doc?"

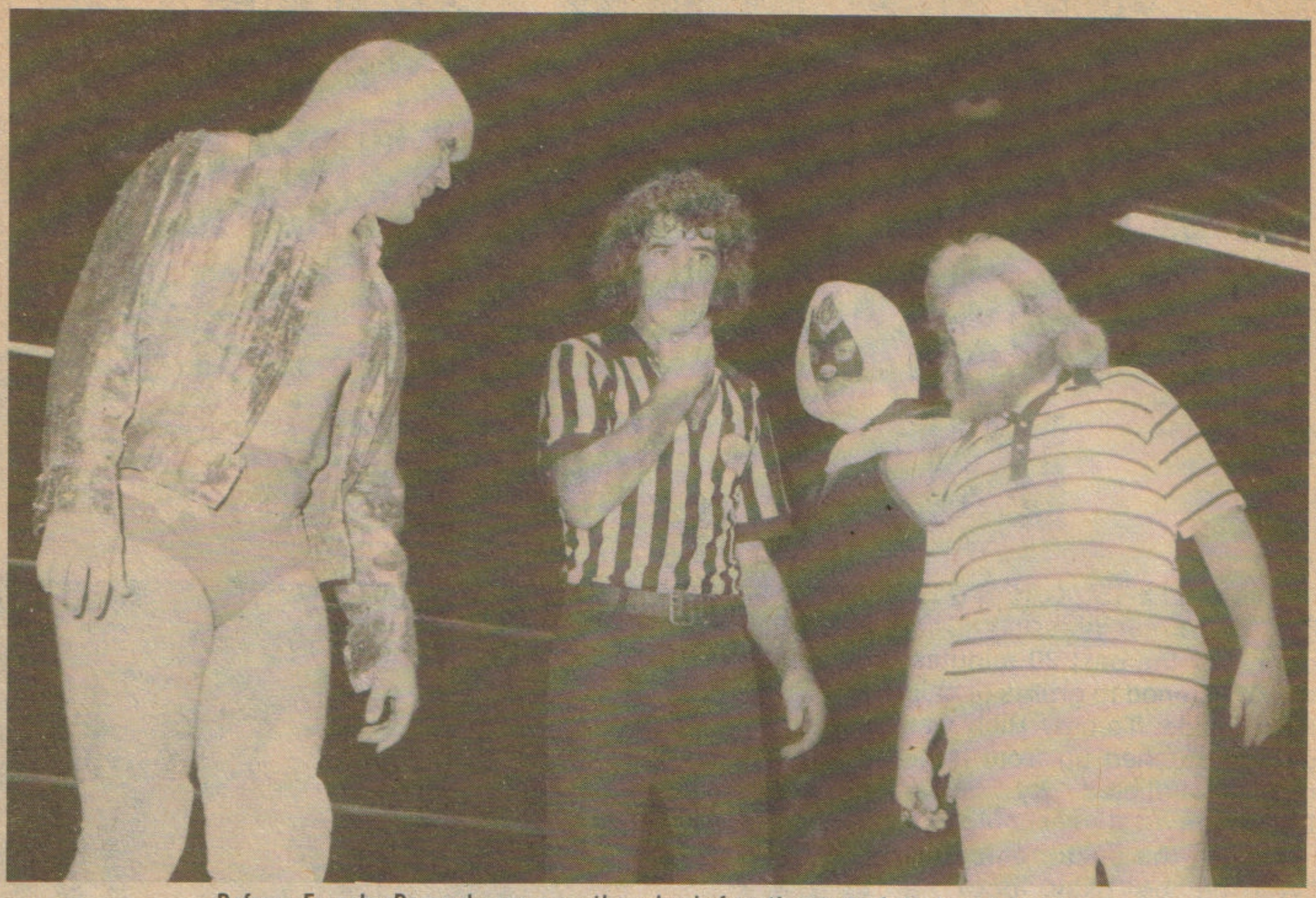
"See for yourselves, gentlemen, see for yourselves."

The reporters rushed into the dressing room. They stopped short of the training table where Rich sat. There was something about his cold expression that instinctively kept people back.

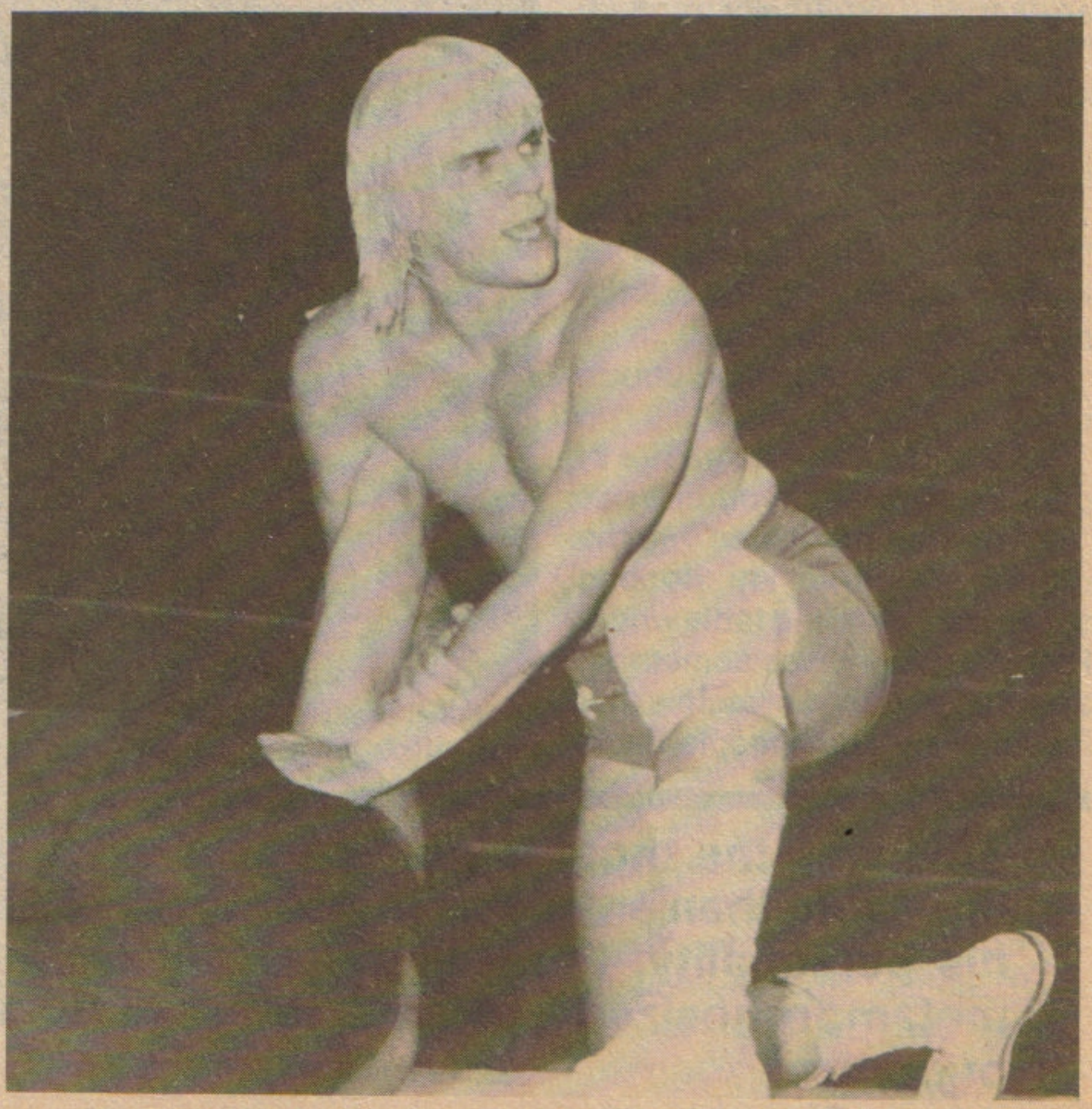


The brutal beating Tommy Rich suffered at the hands of Masked Superstar had long range effects on the former fan favorite.

This was the most important event in Tommy Rich's young life. More than any other incident, this reshaped and reformed his personality. From kind, decent scientific wrestler, Rich metamorphosized into an embittered maniac completely out of control



Referee Frenchy Bernard goes over the rules before the start of the bout (above). Superstar and Humperdink were not listening. Rich hears the cheers of the crowd as he holds Superstar in an armlock (below).



Something had happened.

"Get out your pencils, boys," Rich snapped, his voice hard and cold. "I got a story for you. As far as I'm concerned, you can take the rulebook and shove it down the toilet. I've been a chump too long. From now on, Tommy Rich is interested only in winning. As far as the fans are concerned, they can like it or lump it. It's all the same to me."

The reporters were stunned. This was a different Tommy Rich than they'd ever seen. The turmoil, dashed hopes and disappointments of the past few months had finally proved too much for the man. The match Rich just wrestled was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Months later, fans would be sadly familiar with the new Tommy Rich. Tough, cruel, and vicious, Rich now does anything for victory. Formerly

Superstar plants his left knee in Rich's back and twists his neck to the breaking point (left). Before the bout, Tommy signed autographs for his fans (above). It may well have been the last time.

one of the most beloved young men in the sport, Rich has turned his back on the fans that worshipped him. Surprisingly enough, few people know about the match that changed Tommy from hero to maniac.

His opponent was Super Destroyer. The place was Florida. Tommy, heartbroken at not being able to take the NWA title from Harley Race in Georgia, had decided to do a little traveling. Super Destroyer had been terrorizing Florida. Tommy, at that time, was the kind of guy to want to do something about it.

From the first seconds of that match, Tommy was overwhelmed by the masked marauder's illegal tactics. Fans who had seen Tommy wrestle before claimed he was off stride, as if he couldn't get up for the match. Whatever the reason, Super Destroyer had a field day.

Eventually, a huge gash opened across Tommy's forehead. Spurred on by bloodlust, Super Destroyer opened more wounds across his victim's face. Tommy, blinded by blood pouring into his eyes, seemed helpless. Then it happened.

As a friend would say later, "The Tommy Rich we knew died." Rich became wild and brutal, matching Super Destroyer's cruelty with savagery of his own. It was the ugliest display of wrestling brutality anyone could imagine.

Finally, the referee stopped the match, declaring a double disqualification. Super Destroyer quickly ran back to his dressing room, apparently

(Continued on page 64)

SPECIAL OFFER TO OUR CUSTOMERS
VERY RARE BACK ISSUES TO COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTIONS-$5 per copy

INSIDE WRESTLING

- ☐ October 1971
- ☐ February 1972
- ☐ March 1972
- ☐ July 1972
- ☐ August 1972
- ☐ September 1972
- ☐ October 1972
- ☐ November 1972
- ☐ December 1972
- ☐ January 1973
- ☐ February 1973
- ☐ March 1973
- ☐ April 1973
- ☐ May 1973
- ☐ July 1973
- ☐ August 1973
- ☐ September 1973
- ☐ November 1973
- ☐ December 1973

THE WRESTLER

- ☐ April 1969
- ☐ January 1972
- ☐ February 1972
- ☐ April 1972
- ☐ June 1972
- ☐ August 1972
- ☐ November 1972
- ☐ December 1972
- ☐ April 1973
- ☐ May 1973
- ☐ June 1973
- ☐ October 1973
- ☐ November 1973
- ☐ December 1973
- ☐ January 1974
- ☐ February 1974
- ☐ October 1974
- ☐ March 1975
- ☐ April 1976

SPORTS REVIEW

- ☐ January 1975
- ☐ Annual Spring 1977
- ☐ Annual Fall 1977
- ☐ Annual Winter 1977
- ☐ July 1977
- ☐ October 1977
- ☐ October 1978

SPECIAL ISSUES

- ☐ Big Book 1968
- ☐ Big Book 1969
- ☐ Annual 1972 #2
- ☐ Annual 1973 #6
- ☐ Annual 1974 #7

For fastest delivery payment should be made by money order. Allow an additional 2 weeks for delivery when payment is made by personal check. While we will accept cash payments, it must be understood that we are not responsible for cash sent through the mail. Do not send coins!

SPECIAL BACK ISSUE ORDER FORM

T.V. SPORTS, INC.
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571

$5 per copy

Please send me the rare back issues I have checked. I am enclosing $5.00 for EACH copy I am ordering, which includes all shipping and postage charges.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BE SURE TO LIST SUBSTITUTE CHOICES

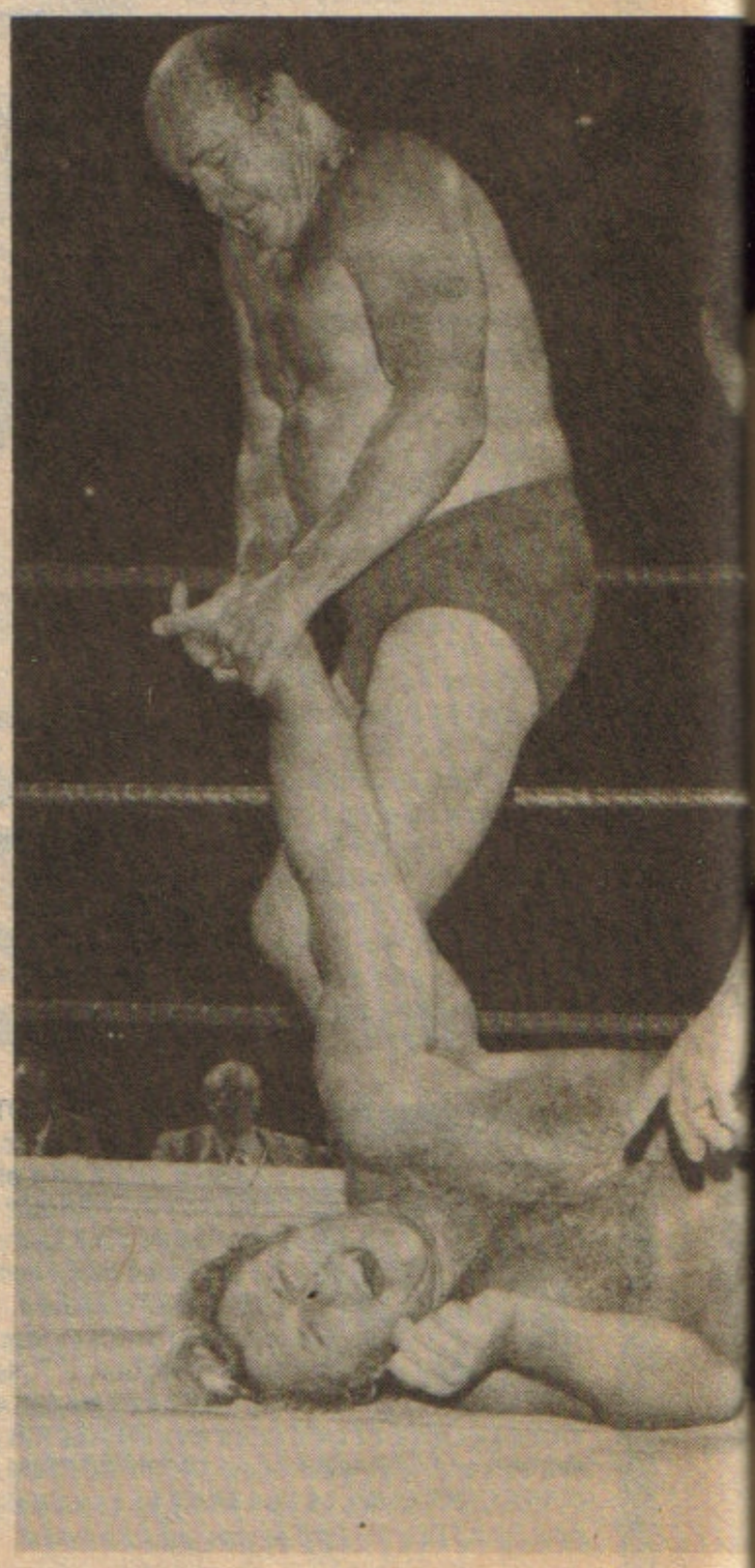
In case you are sold out of the issues I have checked, I will accept any of the following rare back issues as substitutes.

Substitute #1 _____ Substitute #3 _____

Substitute #2 _____ Substitute #4 _____

PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 14)



Tommy Rich and his new friends, Jimmy Hart and Bobby Eaton (opposite left). Mil Mascaras leaps upon a stunned Harley Race (above). Verne Gagne captures the AWA title from Nick Bockwinkel (below).

(Continued on page 56)

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

T.V. SPORTS

BACK ISSUES

This is the wrestling magazine that caused a revolution in the industry. In the short time PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED has been publishing, it has already become the most popular wrestling magazine in the world. See why for yourself. Only $2 each.

PWI/Sept 79

PWI/Nov 79

PWI/Jan 80

PWI/Mar 80

PWI/May 80

PWI/July 80

PWI/Aug 80

PWI/Sept 80

PWI/Nov 80

PWI/Dec 80

PWI/Jan 81

PWI/Feb 81

TV SPORTS, INC.
Box 48
Rockville Centre,
NY 11571

- ☐ PWI/Sept 79
- ☐ PWI/Nov 79
- ☐ PWI/Jan 80
- ☐ PWI/Mar 80
- ☐ PWI/May 80
- ☐ PWI/July 80
- ☐ PWI/Aug 80
- ☐ PWI/Sept 80
- ☐ PWI/Nov 80
- ☐ PWI/Dec 80
- ☐ PWI/Jan 81
- ☐ PWI/Feb 81

ONLY $2 EACH

Please send me the back issues checked. I am enclosing $2 for each copy.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

BEST BY MAIL

Rates: Write National, Box 5, Sarasota, Fl. 33578

BUY WHOLESALE

BASF cassette tapes. Buy direct and save. Send for free brochure. Box 18487, Phila., Pa. 19120

MONEYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

MAKE $337.50 for 15 hours at home! Manufacture rubber stamps. Equipment and financing supplied. Rush $10.00 for 104 page particulars. Warner, Dept. RC-449-JM, 1512 Jarvis, Chicago, 60626

$50/HUNDRED Addressing envelopes! Details send stamped self-addressed envelope! Kelley Enterprises, Box 4696, Detroit, Mi. 48234

FREE Catalog!! Fantastic instant profits!! Beautiful unusual imported giftware. Miller Specialties, 270S 450E(P), Kokomo, In. 46901

$75.00/HUNDRED stuffing envelopes! NuWay, Box 24949(T), Nashville, Tn. 37202

WIN Consistently! Any race track! Foolproof! Details: Erwin(MM), 68 Charlesbank Way, Waltham, Ma. 02154

BOOKS & CATALOGS

FREE! A gift certificate, calendar and discount catalog. Send $3.00, postage. Trading Post, 101 E. 29th St., Wilmington, De. 19802

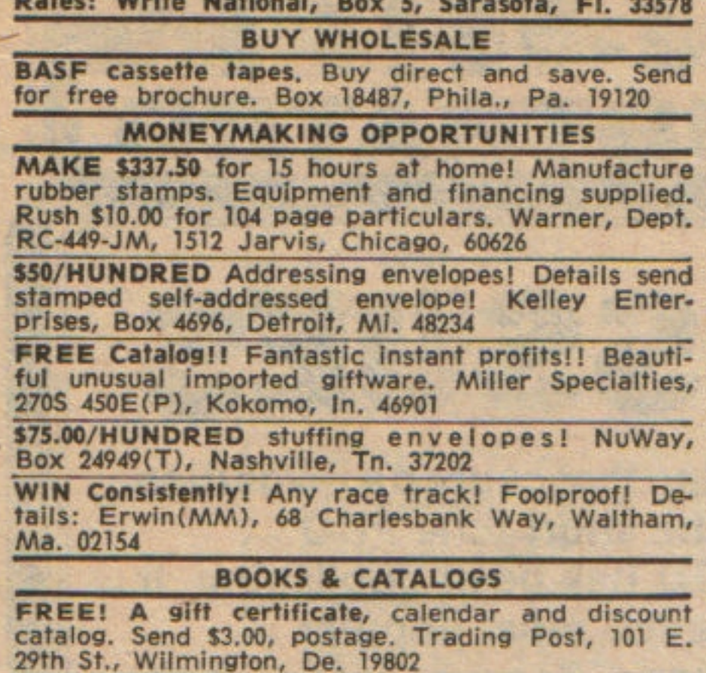
PERSONAL-MISCELLANEOUS

NEED Credit? Get Visa, Master Charge card with no credit check. Guaranteed! Simple, legal, plus other credit secrets. Free details. Send SASE to: Inflation Reports, PO Box 60148(MM), L.A., Ca. 90060

$GET Out of debt legally!! SASE, 25¢. Enterprises, Box 428(MM), Thomson, Il. 61285

MAKE your paycheck pay your way. $3.95. Bobby Poston, Box 28161, Columbus, Oh. 43228

DMSO — 8 oz., $19.95. Paneco, 2385 Glencoe, Denver, Co. 80207


HEARTQUAKE!
The Suggestive, Short-Verse Datebook for Lovers and Other Wildly Sensuous Beings ★★★★
PROVOCATIVE POETRY FOR EACH WEEK NOTE PAGES FOR TANTALIZING THOUGHTS AND RISQUÉ RECOLLECTIONS RENDEZVOUS RECORD PAGES - UNIVERSAL, START ANY WEEK OF ANY YEAR !!!!!!
TO ORDER SEND $6.95/copy TO GRASSLANDS PUBLICATIONS, 413 SCOTT, EDWARDSVILLE, IL 62025

Start Instantly to Give you Sledge Hammer Striking Power and Strength. "Hammer Fists" weighted arm builders buckle on your wrists so you can wear them anytime at work or play.

Reinforce Your Power. Build Your Strength. Silently, without any special effort, hour by hour, day by day your arms grow to new fearsome, sledge hammer, power. Just wearing "Hammer Fists" give you the proud masculine feeling that says "I can take care of myself."

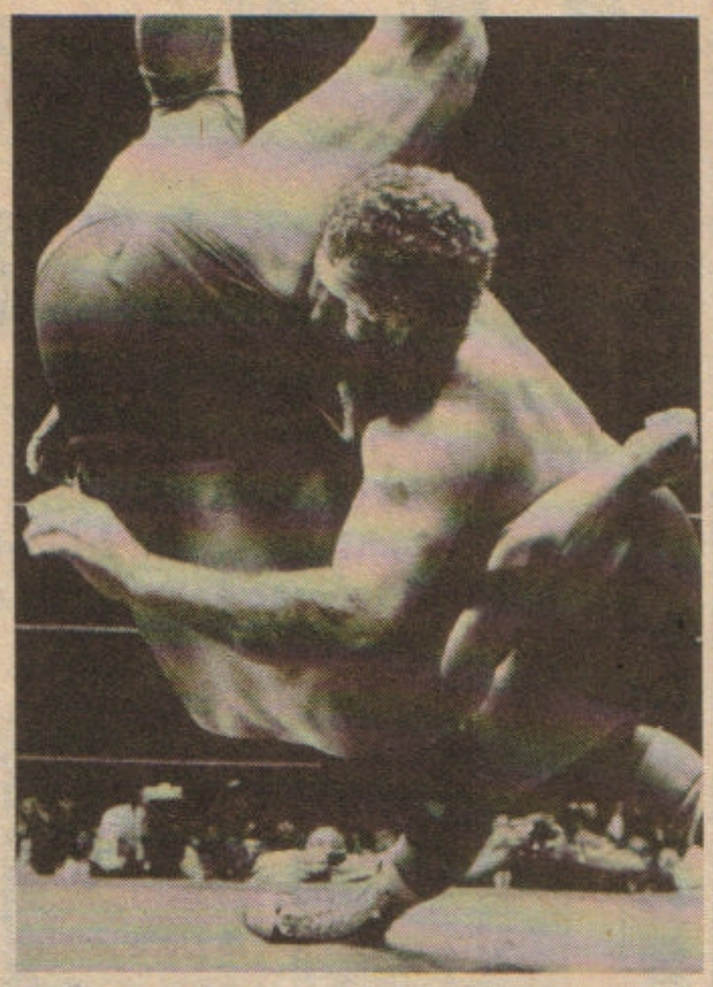
WARNING "Hammer Fists" are intended only to improve the strength of the arms. They should not be worn during any fight, martial arts, boxing or physical contact sports. The weight added to the arm increases the danger of serious injury to an opponent.

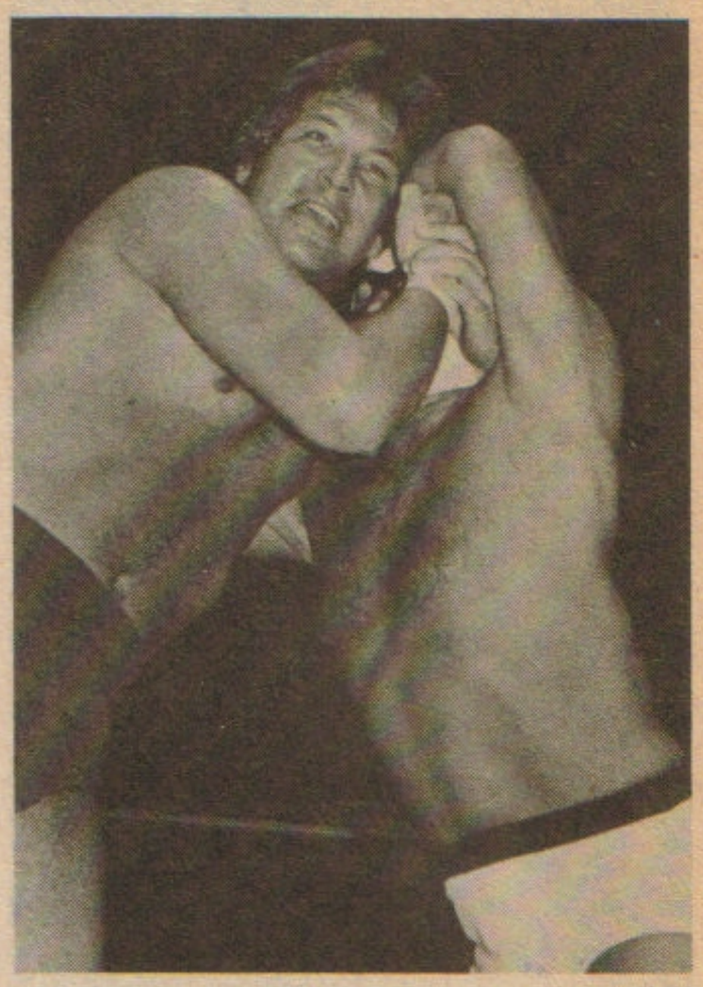
Order "Hammer Fists" power packed weighted wristband. Use for 10 days. If you don't see immediate and growing improvements in the size and strength of your arms; if you don't instantly feel more powerful, more masculine, more capable, more fearless—You can return it for refund of the full purchase price. Send just $4.98 plus 75¢ shipping for one. ($8.98 plus $1.50 shipping for two).

"Hammer Fist" div. Gatna Co., Inc. Dept. 26439
2420 Bennett Ave. N. Bellmore, N.Y. 11710

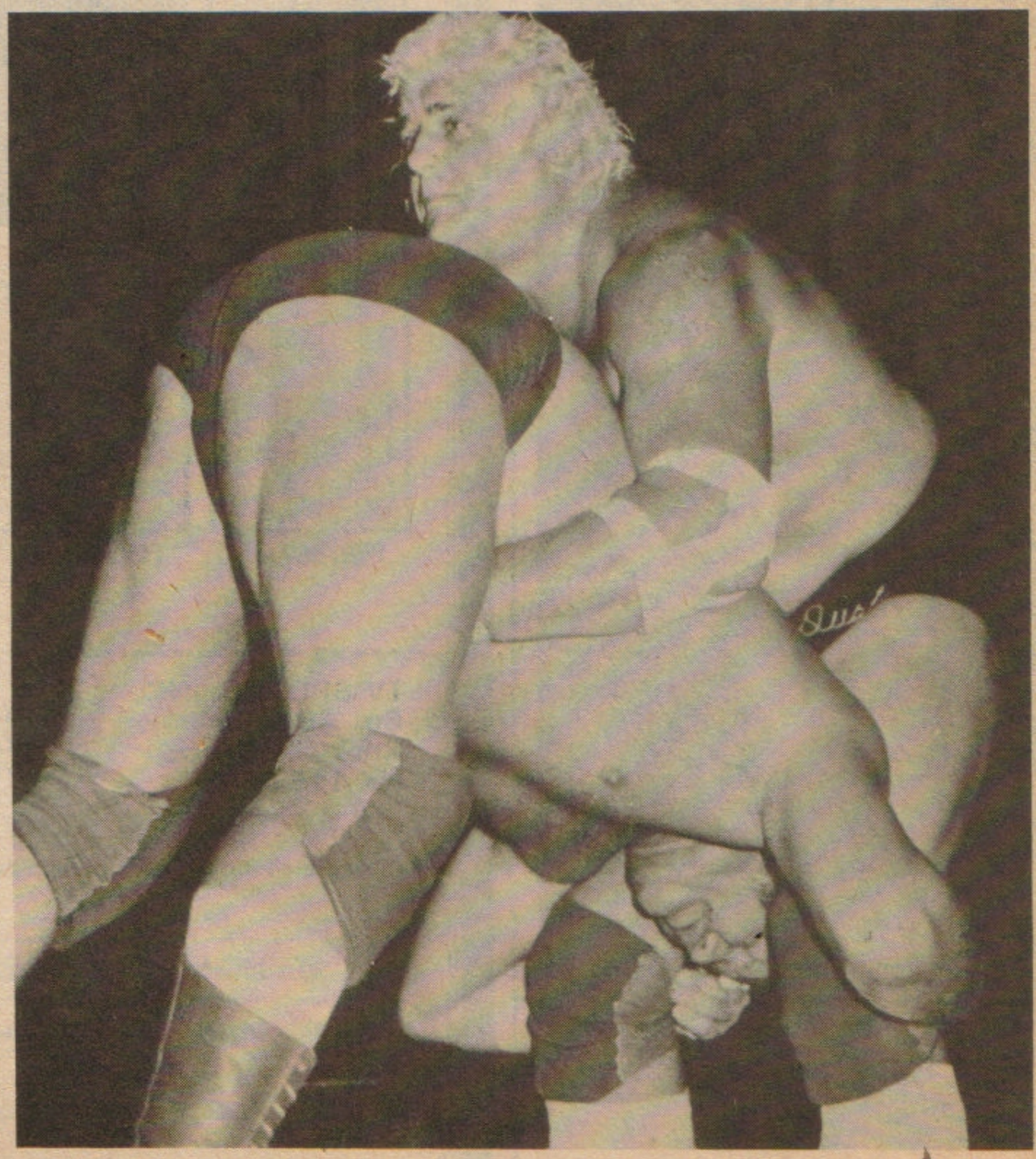
PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 55)





One week after dropping the NWA belt to Baba the Giant in Japan, Harley Race came back to win the belt for a fifth time (above left). Ted DiBiase and Mr. Wrestling II engaged in the year's premier scientific match (above right). Dusty Rhodes' final match with Race in the "Last Tangle in Tampa."



(Continued on page 58)

VERY RARE BACK ISSUES

ONLY $5 EACH

THE ORIGINAL WRESTLING REVUE

ONLY $5 EACH

All the back issues of the ORIGINAL WRESTLING REVUE listed for sale in this advertisement were edited and published by Stanley Weston, who founded Wrestling Revue in 1959 and sold his interests in the magazine in 1964. These extremely rare back issues have not been available to the public for more than 15 years, although many have been sold by private collectors for as much as 75 dollars per copy. This is a rare opportunity for those of you who collect and treasure truly fine wrestling magazines of great historic importance, at a price you can afford. Most of these issues contain magnificent, full color pin up portraits of the world's greatest wrestlers, some of whom are still active. The supply of these collector's treasures is very limited, so order today and avoid disappointment.

ALL SALES FINAL. NO EXCHANGES OR REFUNDS WILL BE MADE.

WRESTLING REVUE

- ☐ SPRING 1961
- ☐ SUMMER 1961
- ☐ FALL 1961
- ☐ WINTER 1961
- ☐ DECEMBER 1961
- ☐ FEBRUARY 1962
- ☐ APRIL 1962
- ☐ JUNE 1962
- ☐ DECEMBER 1962
- ☐ FEBRUARY 1963
- ☐ APRIL 1963
- ☐ JUNE 1963
- ☐ DECEMBER 1963
- ☐ FEBRUARY 1964

SEND TO:
T.V. SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY
11571

Please rush me the issues of WRESTLING REVUE I have checked. I am enclosing $5.00 for EACH copy.

Name _____

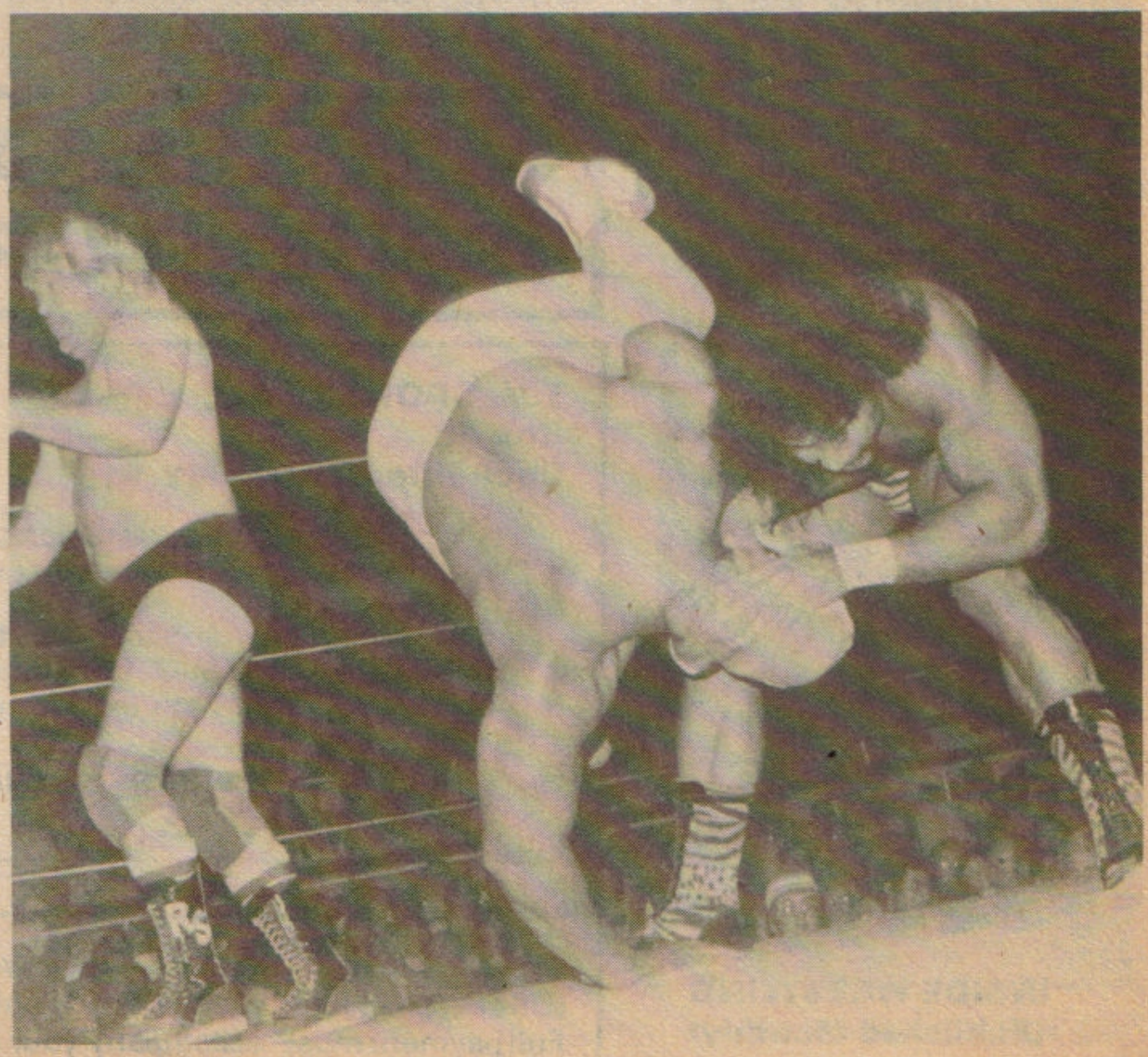
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PRELUDE TO A DECADE

(Continued from Page 56)

The year's saddest story was the breakup of the Anderson family. Gordon Solie gets the scoop from Lars Anderson (above). Nineteen eighty's most successful tag team was undoubtedly the combination of Ray Stevens and Jimmy Snuka. Snuka snapmares Sweet Ebony Diamond to the canvas (below).



VERY RARE BACK ISSUES!!

THE ORIGINAL
BOXING ILLUSTRATED WRESTLING NEWS

ONLY $5 EACH

All the back issues of the original BOXING ILLUSTRATED-WRESTLING NEWS listed for sale in this ad were edited and published by Stanley Weston, who founded the magazine in 1958 and sold his interests in 1964. Each issue contains an exciting wrestling section, cram-packed with thrilling photos and award-winning stories. No wrestling fan can call his magazine collection complete without these back issue treasures. Remember, these back issues have not been available to the public for over 15 years, although many have been sold by private collectors for as much as $75 a copy. Naturally, the supply is limited, so order today and avoid disappointment.

ALL SALES FINAL. NO EXCHANGES OR REFUNDS CAN BE MADE.

BOXING ILLUSTRATED WRESTLING NEWS

☐ Feb. 1959	☐ Dec. 1962
☐ Mar. 1959	☐ Jan. 1963
☐ April 1959	☐ Feb. 1963
☐ May 1959	☐ June 1963
☐ June 1959	☐ July 1963
☐ Aug. 1959	☐ Sept. 1963
☐ Sept. 1959	☐ Oct. 1963
☐ July 1961	☐ Nov. 1963
☐ Mar. 1962	☐ Jan. 1964
☐ April 1962	☐ Feb. 1964
☐ July 1962	☐ Mar. 1964
☐ Aug. 1962	☐ May 1964
☐ Nov. 1962	☐ July 1964

SEND TO:
T.V. SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY
11571

Please rush me the issues of BOXING ILLUSTRATED/WRESTLING NEWS I have checked. I am enclosing $5.00 for each copy.

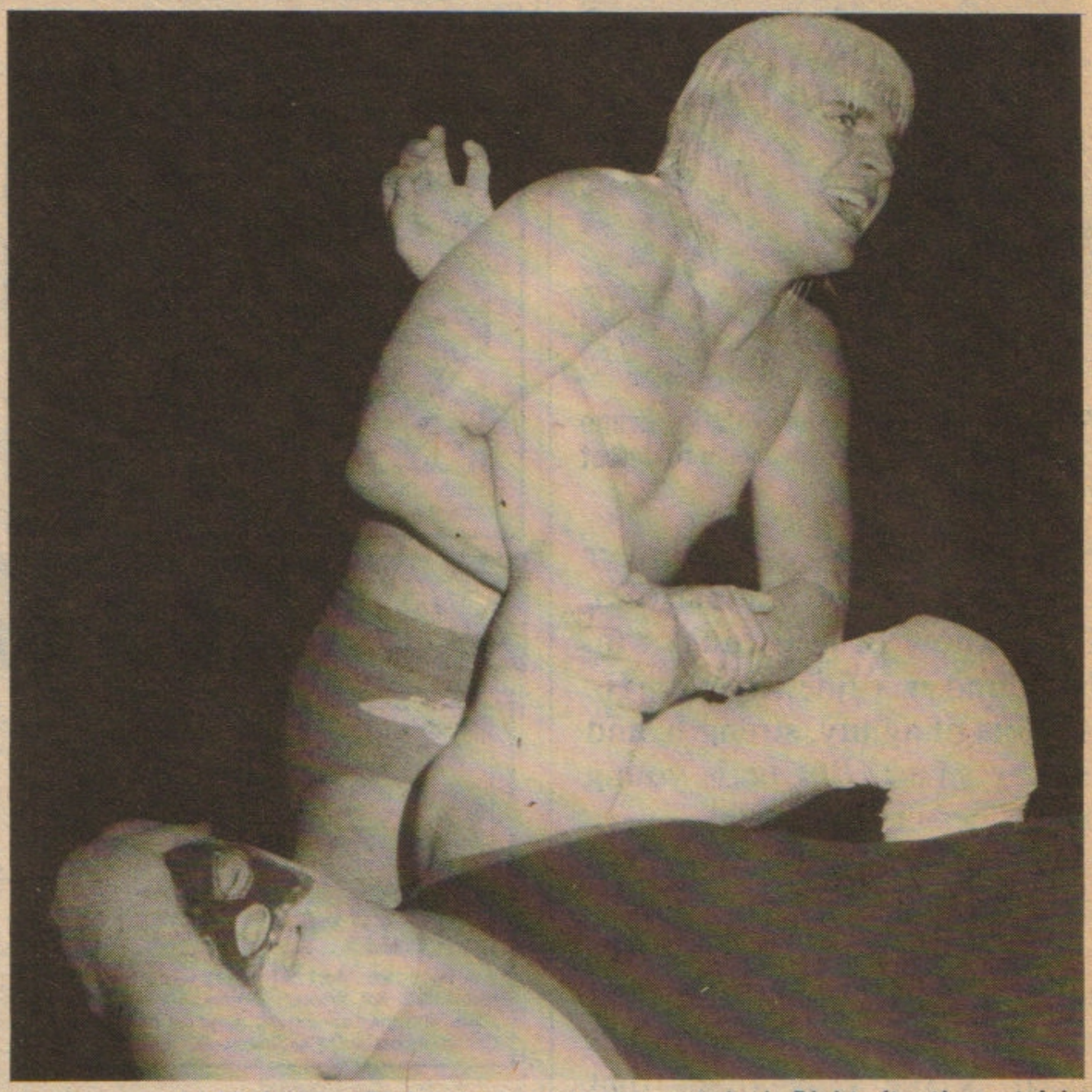
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

TOMMY RICH

(Continued from Page 39)



Superstar grabs his head as Rich puts pressure on an armlock. Right after the match in Florida, Tommy went on to Memphis where he turned rulebreaker. The timing of the change is probably no coincidence.

relieved to be sent from the battlefield. Tommy stood in the center of the ring, his body heaving as he breathed deeply. Through the veil of blood he stared out into space, as if seeing something no one else could see. Then he walked off. The crowd cheered. Perhaps it was the last time Tommy Rich would hear cheers for himself.

After that night, Tommy was a changed man. He went to Memphis and became a rule-breaker. It was a horrible shock for all those who worshipped him as a hero. It was a horrible shock for all those who considered him a friend.

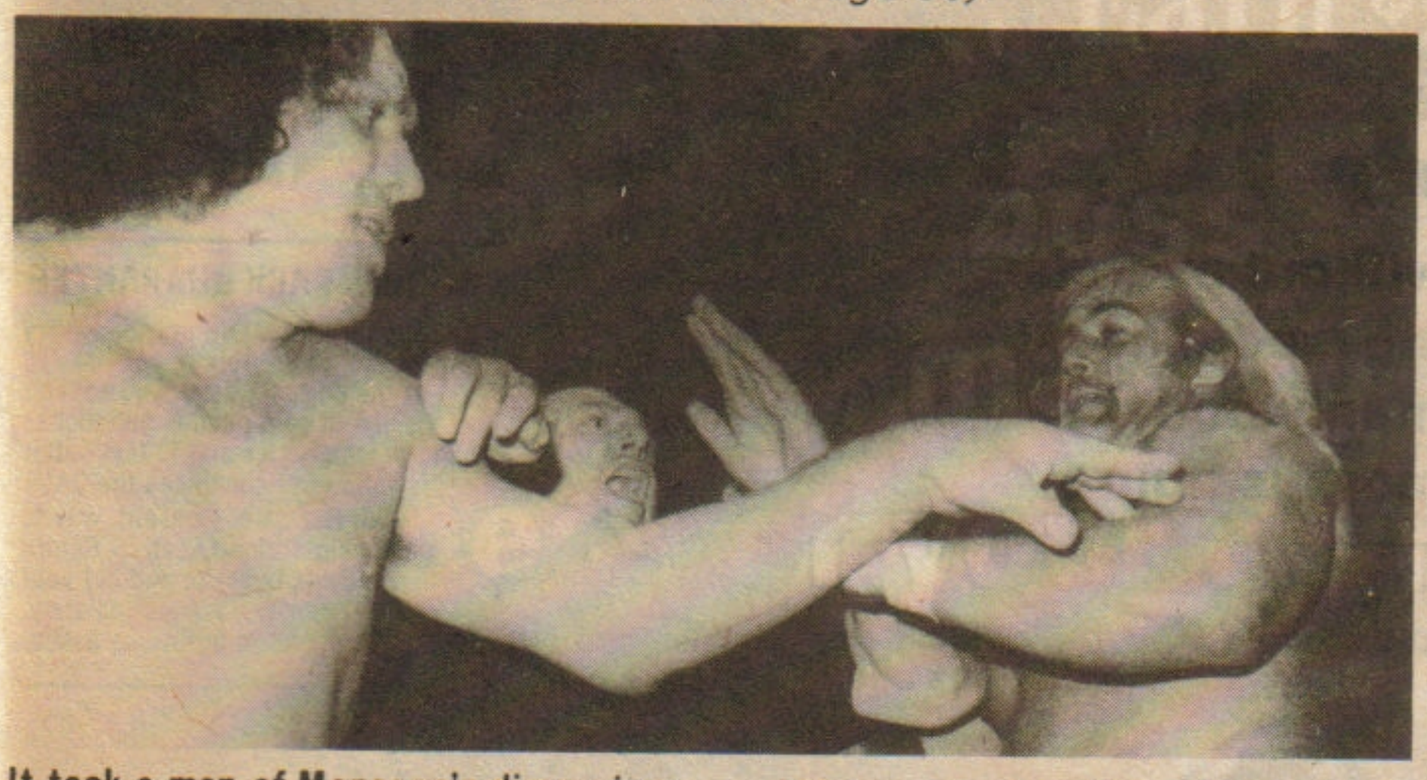
As Mr. Wrestling II, a former friend, says, "It wasn't Super Destroyer who changed Tommy. It had to happen. He invested so much of himself into his match with Harley Race and didn't win. He couldn't take it. He was like a kite flying without string; he lost all sense of control. The Super Destroyer match just pushed him in a direction. The change in Tommy was due to bad luck and bad timing."

Does this mean Rich's change is just temporary. "I don't know," concludes Mr. Wrestling II. "I hope so, but I don't know." ☐

To Magazine Retailers: SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING ANNUAL magazine is pleased to announce its "Retail Display Allowance Plan" available to retailers interested in earning a display allowance on this magazine. To obtain details and a copy of the formal contract, please write to the Marketing Department, Kable News Company, Inc., 777 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017, our national distributor, who will act as administrator of our plan. Under our Retail Display Allowance Plan, in consideration for fulfilling conditions of the agreement, you will be entitled to receive a display allowance. This plan will become effective for all issues you receive subsequent to Kable News Company, Inc.'s written acceptance on our behalf of your application.

Hulk Hogan

(Continued from Page 36)



It took a man of Monsoon's dimensions to maintain order in this battle of behemoths.

"It's authentic," insisted Hogan. "I got the proof, all I need. You can take it to any scientist you want to, I don't care, I got nothin' to hide. If anyone, it's Andre 'cause I've shattered the myth of Andre the Giant.

"He ain't nothin' but a big, ugly freak who can't fight his own battle. I been tellin' the world for a long time how Andre has to cheat and get help from his friends, or in this case a paid-off referee like Monsoon to win a match. The man is so big he can hide a foreign object anywhere on his body and he's so damn ugly no one wants to search him or else they'll get the ugly disease.

"So go on, take it to anyone you want. I'll even be nice enough to give you the name of my own personal scientist." Hogan scribbled a name on a slip of paper. When told it would be best to contact an analyst unencumbered by his own potential prejudice, Hogan grew sullen.

"Go on, I told you I don't care, I ain't got nothin' to hide. Just make sure you bring back the tape in one piece or I'll rip your eyes outta your head," Hogan warned.

We took the tape to a man often used by our magazine, Dr. Daniel P. Olivetti. We brought samples of Monsoon's voice and Andre's voice. After depositing the tape with Olivetti, we left with a promise from the good doctor he would conduct a speedy, though thorough test of the tapes.

Later that afternoon, we met with Dr. Olivetti. He had a wide smile on his wizened face.

"Quite an excellent job," said Dr. Olivetti. "Quite, quite good, I must say. Whoever doctored these tapes is quite an expert."

His visitor asked if that meant the tapes weren't genuine.

"Of course they're not. Quite simply, all the words spoken on these tapes were not spoken by Gorilla Monsoon and Andre the Giant. Some were, just enough to duplicate their voice patterns. But this is a smattering and splicing of a conversation. The way the conversation is presented on this tape never took place."

When Hogan was informed of this conclusion, he flew into a rage.

"I ain't surprised, no, not at all. You guys are all paid off by Andre and those freaks. I shoulda known I could never get justice from you people. I'm gonna have to get my justice in the ring." □

BEN STRONG

We have a limited number of BEN STRONG WRESTLING back issues available. Due to the popular demand for these very special magazines, we must fill orders on a first come, first served basis.

NO ORDERS ACCEPTED FOR $1.00

THE MORE YOU ORDER THE MORE YOU SAVE

Choose From One of These Special Offers
Offer #1: Any 1 magazine (your choice) $2.00
Offer #2: Any 2 magazines (your choice) $3.00
Offer #3: Any 3 magazines (your choice) $4.00
Offer #4: Any 4 magazines (your choice) $5.00
Offer #5: Any 10 magazines (your choice) $10.00

☐ Spec. JAN/73 ☐ JULY/74
☐ APRIL/73 ☐ SEPT/74
☐ AUG/73 ☐ DEC/74
☐ NOV/73 ☐ JUNE/75
☐ JAN/74 ☐ SUM/75

T.V. SPORTS, INC.
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY
N.Y. 11571

BEN STRONG

I choose offer #_____ and enclose $_____. Send me postpaid the magazines checked. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Print your name and address clearly.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____